



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 23 February 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is  
**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS  
[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- SC Magazine reports hackers infiltrated network systems -- potentially accessing the personal details of millions of shoppers -- at TJX, the parent of T.J. Maxx and Marshalls, for a longer period than the discount clothing retailer initially thought. (See item [10](#))
- The National Transportation Safety Board has called in a glass specialist to examine the cracked windshields found on at least 14 airplanes at Denver International Airport during a storm last week. (See item [12](#))
- The Daily Sentinel reports biologists from the Colorado Division of Wildlife continue to puzzle over the possible causes for the deaths of more than 600 waterfowl at several water treatment plants across Denver and Boulder. (See item [26](#))

### DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

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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. *February 21, Reuters* — **Imperial rations gasoline to Ontario Esso stations.** Gasoline shortages following a refinery fire has forced the closure of nearly a fifth of Imperial Oil Ltd.'s 400 company-owned Esso service stations in Ontario, Canada, as the company rations supplies to dealers. Gasoline prices in Toronto, Canada's biggest city surged, according to one Website,

and Imperial's competitors are struggling to meet the additional call caused by the woes of Canada's biggest refiner. Imperial is 69.6 percent owned by Exxon Mobil. About 75 of its 400 stations in Ontario were shut on Wednesday, February 21, because they had no gas to sell, the company said. The troubles began last week when a fire broke out in the crude processing unit at Imperial 118,000 barrel a day Nanticoke refinery in Southern Ontario. The fire was quickly put out but Imperial isn't accepting new oil deliveries until repairs are complete – which won't be until month's end at least – and the company will not say when volumes will return to normal.

Source: [http://ca.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyID=2007-02-21T194421Z\\_01\\_N21294741\\_RTRIDST\\_0\\_CA\\_NADA-IMPERIAL-GASOLINE-COL.XML](http://ca.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyID=2007-02-21T194421Z_01_N21294741_RTRIDST_0_CA_NADA-IMPERIAL-GASOLINE-COL.XML)

2. *February 21, San Antonio Express-News* — **Valero blast blamed on gas vapor.** The cause of a blast at Valero's McKee refinery probably was a release of liquid propane that rapidly turned to vapor and ignited, causing a flash fire, a federal investigator said Wednesday, February 21. What ignited the propane isn't yet clear, supervisory investigator Don Holmstrom of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board said in a conference call. But it may take as long as a year to be sure of the cause of what Holmstrom termed a "major fire" at the refinery. "At this point, we're proceeding with our accident investigation on multiple fronts, but no formal decision has been taken by the board on the scope of the inquiry," he said. The accident occurred Friday afternoon, February 16, at Valero Energy Corp.'s 170,000-barrel-a-day refinery in Sunray, TX. Valero called its 470 workers back to the plant Tuesday and work continues to restore utilities, Valero spokesperson Mary Rose Brown said. It could take several weeks before a partial start-up of the refinery can begin, she said.

Source: <http://www.mysanantonio.com/business/stories/MYSA022207.01E.Valero.96383a.html>

3. *February 21, Government Computer News* — **Auditors fault DOE's computer disposal methods.** The Department of Energy's (DOE) Inspector General, Gregory H. Friedman, has found fault with the Idaho National Laboratory's (INL) technical procedures for removing restricted nuclear data and confidential data from old computers. DOE agreed with the conclusions of a report Friedman's office issued, which essentially recommended that the Idaho laboratory adopt and enforce all department policies regarding the handling of excess computers. The IG's auditing staff found that INL had sold a computer containing unclassified controlled information, including personal information, at a public auction in October 2004. "We concluded that INL did not have adequate policies and internal controls for excessing computers and other electronic memory devices to prevent the unauthorized dissemination of unclassified controlled information," the report stated. They added that they did not uncover any additional releases of the controlled information. The auditors toured INL's facilities for storing excess computers and shipping them offsite for disposal after degaussing. They found many hard drives kept in a wooden box outdoors in the lab's property protection area.

Report: <http://www.ig.energy.gov/documents/IG-0757.pdf>

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1\\_no1/43189-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/43189-1.html)

4. *February 08, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-152: Leaking Underground Storage Tanks: EPA Should Take Steps to Better Ensure the Effective Use of Public Funding for Cleanups (Report).** Underground storage tanks that leak hazardous substances

can contaminate nearby groundwater and soil. Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), tank owners and operators are primarily responsible for paying to clean up releases from their tanks. They can demonstrate their financial responsibility by using, among other options, publicly funded state financial assurance funds. Such funds function like insurance and are intended to ensure timely cleanup. These funds also pay to clean up releases from tanks without a viable owner, as does the federal Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to report on (1) states' estimates of the public costs to clean up known releases, (2) states' primary sources of cleanups funding and their viability, and (3) federal sources to address these releases. GAO surveyed all states and discussed key issues with EPA and selected state officials. GAO recommends actions for EPA to ensure that (1) tank owners maintain adequate financial responsibility coverage and (2) state assurance funds provide reliable coverage, among other things. In commenting on a draft of this report, EPA agreed with GAO's recommendations. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07152high.pdf>  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-152>

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## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

5. *February 22, Palm Beach Daily News (FL)* — **Tanker diesel spill clean up closes lanes.**

Firefighters cleaned up a diesel spill Wednesday evening, February 21, at Bradley Place and Royal Poinciana Way in Palm Beach, FL. There was no fire hazard, but the slippery fuel was a hazard for vehicles, authorities said. The southbound lane of Bradley Place was closed to traffic for more than an hour between Sunrise Avenue and Royal Poinciana, and one westbound lane of Royal Poinciana was closed near the Flagler Memorial Bridge while fire-rescue personnel used a foam and absorbent to break up the fuel before washing it into the drainage system. The spill came from a tanker and was traced to the vicinity of a construction site around 700 N. Lake Way, police said.

Source: <http://www.palmbeachdailynews.com/news/content/news/dieselspill0222.html>

6. *February 22, New York Times* — **Iraq insurgents employ chlorine in bomb attacks.** A truck bomb that combined explosives with chlorine gas blew up in southern Baghdad on Wednesday, February 21, and officials said it might represent a new and deadly tactic by insurgents against Iraqi civilians. It was at least the third truck bomb in a month to employ chlorine, a greenish gas also used in World War I, which burns the skin and can be fatal after only a few concentrated breaths. The bomb killed at least two people and wounded 32 others, many of them sent to hospitals coughing and wheezing, police and medical officials said. The bombing involving chlorine gas on Wednesday followed an explosion on Tuesday north of Baghdad of a tanker filled with chlorine that had been rigged to explode, killing nine people and wounding 148. At least one other attack with chlorine took place on January 28. Sixteen people were killed in that attack. The attacks seem to have been poorly executed, burning the chemical agent rather than dispersing it, but more sophisticated weapons involving chlorine could injure hundreds and cause mass panic.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/22/world/middleeast/22iraq.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/22/world/middleeast/22iraq.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

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## Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *February 22, Aviation Week* — **Acquisition reform bills start piling up on the Hill.** A leading Senate Republican on governmental reform issues is introducing legislation that aims to rein in sole-source contract awards, support inspectors general, limit the degree of subcontracting and targets lead systems integrators. "The federal government's prodigious purchasing can create abundant opportunities for waste, fraud and abuse," Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), the ranking Republican and former chair of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said in announcing her proposed Accountability in Government Contracting bill. The legislation comes after high-profile Senate Democrats earlier this month unveiled another bill targeting alleged contracting waste, fraud and abuse by Pentagon contractors. Regardless of their differences, the competing Senate proposals presage potential acquisition reforms that could emerge from new laws such as the next defense authorization measure, which often has been used by lawmakers to spur changes in the federal acquisition system, let alone at the Department of Defense, the largest discretionary spender.  
Source: <http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/COL/L02227.xml&headline=Acquisition%20Reform%20Bills%20Start%20Piling%20Up%20On%20Hill%20&channel=defense>
8. *February 21, Reuters* — **Air Force chief foresees mixed tanker fleet.** The Air Force likely would seek to buy a mix of refueling planes from two defense contractors, said Gen. Michael Moseley, the Air Force chief of staff. This is because there is "some utility" to having larger and smaller tankers, just as the current fleet is made up of bigger KC-10 and smaller KC-135 models, he said. Moseley said the Air Force may need as much as another \$20 billion a year for at least the coming five years to replace aging aircraft fast enough to keep unit costs affordable. At issue is the total the Air Force thinks it would be short to meet modernization goals even if it gets the \$110.7 billion sought by President George Bush for fiscal 2008, which starts October 1. The tanker replacement program is the Air Force's No. 1 acquisition priority. It has been dragged out for years since a procurement scandal killed a \$23.5 billion Air Force sole-source plan to lease and buy 100 Boeing KC-767s. The contract for the first phase is to be awarded by late summer, to be followed by a competition for another batch of 180 to 200 planes, Moseley said.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/070221/tankers\\_usa\\_airforce.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/rb/070221/tankers_usa_airforce.html?.v=1)
9. *February 21, CongressDaily* — **Air Force sends Congress \$16.9 billion wish list.** Air Force leaders have sent a \$16.9 billion wish list to Capitol Hill, detailing dozens of aircraft and other programs that did not make the cut for the Pentagon's fiscal 2008 budget request. The 406-page list of "unfunded priorities" is substantially larger than similar documents submitted to Congress by the other military services this month. It also is \$11.3 billion more than the value of the Air Force's unfunded list last year — another indication that the service, which has traditionally enjoyed the largest share of the Defense budget, is concerned it might not receive enough money in fiscal 2008 to cover all its needs. Last month, Air Force leaders warned House appropriators that their procurement accounts should not be sacrificed to pay for the needs of the heavily deployed Army and Marine Corps. Topping the Air Force's fiscal 2008 list is \$2.6 billion for several aircraft modernization programs. The list was sent Friday, February 16, to House Armed Services ranking member Duncan Hunter (R-CA).

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=36176&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36176&dcn=to%20daysnews)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *February 22, SC Magazine* — **TJX breach more severe than originally thought, says retailer.** Hackers infiltrated network systems — potentially accessing the personal details of millions of shoppers — at TJX Companies for a longer period than the discount clothing retailer initially thought. The Framingham, MA–based TJX, parent of T.J. Maxx and Marshalls, said Wednesday, February 21, that investigators have determined the company’s network was actually breached in July 2005 and later that year. When the company reported the breach last month, it believed intrusions only occurred from May to December 2006. In addition, the company said credit and debit card transactions completed between January 2003 and June 2004 at its U.S., Puerto Rican and Canadian outlets were compromised, and there is evidence that the portion of its network that processes T.K. Maxx transactions may have also been hacked. T.K. Maxx stores are located in the U.K. and Ireland.

Official Press Release: [http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/tjx/index.jsp?epi-content=GENERIC&newsId=20070221005600&ndmHsc=v2\\*A938775600000\\*B1172204895000\\*C4102491599000\\*DgroupByDate\\*J2\\*N1001148&newsLang=en&beanID=1809476786&viewID=news\\_view](http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/tjx/index.jsp?epi-content=GENERIC&newsId=20070221005600&ndmHsc=v2*A938775600000*B1172204895000*C4102491599000*DgroupByDate*J2*N1001148&newsLang=en&beanID=1809476786&viewID=news_view)

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/us/news/article/635166/tjx-breach-severe-originally-thought-says-retailer/>

11. *February 21, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS needs to increase effort to protect personal data, IG says.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) still must do a lot of work to ensure the security of sensitive and personally identifiable information that is stored on its systems, according to the DHS inspector general (IG). DHS officials are working on the problem, falling in line with guidelines issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on security controls, according to a memorandum from IG Richard Skinner. They have updated DHS policies and procedures to reflect OMB's recommendations, and they have begun the process of identifying and protecting systems that store sensitive data. The IG is also concerned that the department has not followed OMB guidelines for protecting systems that can be accessed by remote users. In their interviews with officials at component agencies, the IG's office found that their efforts to improve remote access and storage controls were hindered by “uncertainty regarding the applicability and scope of the OMB recommendations and new DHS requirements.” The IG recommends that the department's chief information officer identify those gray areas and provide additional guidance.

DHS’s Implementation of Protective Measures for Personally Identifiable Information:

<http://www.fcw.com/article97725-02-21-07-Web>

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article97725-02-21-07-Web>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

12. *February 22, Associated Press* — **NTSB calls in specialist to examine cracked windshields at DIA.** Why windshields cracked on at least 14 airplanes at Denver International Airport (DIA) during a storm last week remains a mystery, prompting the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) to call in a glass specialist. “We are not discounting anything,” Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson Allen Kenitzer, whose agency is among those investigating the incident, said Tuesday, February 20. “We believe it is very remarkable to have this number of events in the same area at the same time.” The NTSB said its glass specialist will examine 22 damaged front and side windshields that were removed from affected airplanes, investigator Jennifer Kaiser said. Kaiser said the NTSB is also investigating whether an air pressure change may have contributed, she said.

Source: <http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20070221/NEWS/70221002/0/FRONTPAGE>

13. *February 22, Associated Press* — **Indonesian passenger ferry fire kills 17.** The Levina 1 was carrying 300 passengers when a pre-dawn blaze broke out in a truck on the car deck hours after the ferry left the capital, Jakarta, for the northwestern island of Bangka, port official Sato Bisri said. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. Remarkably, 275 people were rescued from the Java Sea and the 2,000-ton vessel's charred hull by fishing boats, warships, and helicopters, averting a second major maritime disaster in Indonesia the last several months. At least 17 people were still missing following Thursday, February 22's fire, said Navy spokesperson Hendra Pakan. The search for survivors continued after darkness fell. Transportation Minister Hatta Rajasa said the ferry carried 300 passengers, but the ship's log indicated there were 228 passengers, 42 trucks and eight cars on board. Tallies of ferry passengers are often incomplete and boats overloaded in Indonesia. In the vast nation of 17,000 islands, ferries are the cheapest and most popular form of public transportation. But safety standards are poor, leading to hundreds of deaths each year. Indonesia has been hit by a string of transportation disasters in recent months.

Source: <http://www.nola.com/newsflash/international/index.ssf?/base/international-20/1172148576301990.xml&storylist=international>

14. *February 22, NBC10 (NY)* — **Broken rail cause train accident.** CSX Transportation Inc. has identified a broken rail as the cause of the CSX train derailment in East Rochester, NY, on January 16. The broken rail caused several train cars to come off the tracks, damaging nearby property and power lines. No one was injured. CSX had performed a visual inspection on the tracks on January 15. However, the crack that caused the accident was internal, called a transverse fissure, and did not show up on electronic screening and was not apparent during the visual inspection.

Source: [http://www.10nbc.com/news.asp?template=item&story\\_id=21644](http://www.10nbc.com/news.asp?template=item&story_id=21644)

15. *February 22, Living in Peru* — **Bomb scare causes panic at Peru's Jorge Chavez Airport.** Taca flight 132 heading to Bogota, Colombia, was suspended after a passenger reported that four men were talking about a bomb. What started out as a joke between two United States nationals and two Israeli citizens caused the suspension of a flight at Peru's Jorge Chavez International Airport, in Lima, Peru. According to a report from Peru's La Primera newspaper, a female passenger panicked when she overheard four men talking about bombs. She alerted the plane's personnel who then decided to delay the take off of flight 132, from Taca Airlines. While agents from Peru's Bomb and Explosives Detonation Unit searched the plane thoroughly, the four men insisted that they were only joking and that the woman was overreacting. The four

men, identified as Mulayof Doller, 23, and Onri Afnin, 22, from Israel, and Bazant Patrick Fearnen, 23, and John Thomas Lucket, 23, from the United States, were taken to the Jorge Chavez Airport Police Station for interrogation. After contacting authorities from their respective embassies, the four men were allowed to travel after American and Israeli officials assured the men would cause no further problems.

Source: <http://www.livinginperu.com/news/3245>

- 16. February 22, Government Technology — National Geographic announces global cell phone coverage solution.** National Geographic on Thursday, February 22, announced the launch of the National Geographic Talk Abroad Travel Phone, designed specifically for the traveling public, allowing for affordable calls from over 100 countries, with no contracts to sign and free incoming calls in most international markets. GSM cell phone technology experts at Cellular Abroad, Playa del Rey, CA. collaborated with National Geographic in a licensing partnership to provide this service that works seamlessly across international borders, picking up local cellular networks and providing consumers with the best coverage available. Unlike other services, the phone number stays the same, no matter where the consumer travels. As an added benefit, the National Geographic Talk Abroad Travel Phone features a dedicated toll-free number to reach Cellular Abroad's 24/7 customer support service.

For additional information: <http://www.Cellularabroad.com/travelphone>

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=104019>

- 17. February 22, Associated Press — U.S. relaxes new passport rules for kids.** Children will be exempt from new rules that will require travelers to show passports when entering the U.S. at land or sea borders, a move the Bush administration said Thursday, February 22, is aimed at helping families and school groups. The new passport requirements will take effect as soon as January 2008. In a change from earlier plans, children aged 15 or younger with parental consent will be allowed to cross the borders at land and sea entry points with certified copies of their birth certificates rather than passports. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff discussed the relaxation in rules at a speech Thursday to the Detroit Economic Club before touring the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel, a link with Windsor, Ontario, under the Detroit River. "This is going to make it a lot easier for kids to cross the border without having to get passports and passcards," Chertoff said. "By the way, it's specifically designed to make it cheaper for families." Children aged 16 through 18 traveling with school, religious, cultural or athletic groups and under adult supervision will also be allowed to travel with only their birth certificates.

Source: <http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/16760090.htm>

- 18. February 21, Transportation Security Administration — TSA names Hanscom Field as gateway for general aviation access to Washington National Airport.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on Wednesday, February 21, named Hanscom Field (BED) in Bedford, MA the newest gateway airport for Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). That designation allows certain pre-cleared general aviation operations, including corporate aircraft, charter flights, and on-demand operations, to fly directly from Hanscom Field to DCA. Currently, TSA allows general aviation flights that meet criteria of the DCA Access Standard Security Program to land at DCA. Aircraft must arrive from one of 19 gateway airports, including BED, after flight crews have been vetted and passengers screened. "The addition of Hanscom Field as a new gateway airport gives general aviation travelers one

more option to access the Washington, DC region,” said Dirk Ahle, TSA’s acting general manager for general aviation. The access program was developed in July 2005 in coordination with other components of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Defense. It allows up to 48 general aviation flights into DCA per day, and addresses the unique aviation security needs in the national capitol region by requiring all aircraft to meet standards set by TSA.

Source: [http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2007/press\\_release\\_02222007.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2007/press_release_02222007.shtm)

- 19. February 20, Transportation Security Administration — TSA expands explosives detection capability at Wichita Mid–Continent Airport.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) on Tuesday, February 20, announced the deployment of two Reveal explosives detection systems (EDS) for screening checked baggage at Wichita (KN) Mid–Continent Airport (ICT). The Reveal CT–80 machines are smaller in size and are less than half the price of other EDS machines currently in use at many commercial airports nationwide. “This is a good example of how TSA continues to test and deploy new and cost–efficient technologies to make baggage screening more efficient at the nation’s airports,” said ICT Federal Security Director Keith Osborn. In 2005, TSA deployed eight Reveal machines for operational field testing and evaluation at three airports: Gulfport–Biloxi International Airport (MS), Newark Liberty International Airport (NJ) and John F. Kennedy International Airport (NY). The field tests lasted from 30 to 45 days and provided TSA with the opportunity to evaluate the machine’s effectiveness in an airport environment as well as their impact on security and customer service. As of January 2007, TSA has deployed 112 Reveal machines at a total of 37 airports, including at the original pilot locations.

Information on the EDS machines: <http://www.tsa.gov/approach/tech/eds.shtm>

Source: [http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2007/press\\_release\\_02202007.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2007/press_release_02202007.shtm)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

- 20. February 22, Agricultural Research Service — Natural enzyme deters armyworms and other corn–feeding insects.** Furnishing corn plants with genes for producing the enzyme  $\beta$ -N-acetyl hexosaminidase (NAHA) may offer a way to fend off mold–spreading caterpillars and beetles, Agricultural Research Service (ARS) studies suggest. After hatching from eggs, fall armyworm caterpillars feed on corn plant leaves before advancing on the ears. Other caterpillars and beetle pests feed there, too. When husks are chewed open, kernels can become exposed to mycotoxin–producing fungi. Insecticide spraying within label recommendations helps prevent such feeding and contamination. But the practice can be costly to use and harmful to beneficial insects. As a possible alternative, ARS scientists are testing modified strains of corn that produce NAHA throughout the crop plant's tissues. In laboratory trials, 100 percent of newly hatched fall armyworms that ingested NAHA–containing leaf tissue from some of the

modified corn plants being studied died within three days. The degree to which the caterpillars stopped feeding on all of the modified corn plants depended on how much NAHA the plants actually produced. Corn earworm caterpillars, another pest they tested, were also adversely affected by NAHA-containing plants. The team's examination enzymes is part of an effort to develop ways of shielding corn from mycotoxin contamination, which costs farmers and processors millions of dollars annually.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2007/070222.htm>

**21. *February 22, Country World (TX)* — Producers warned on need for biosecurity measures.**

Proper management is the key to good cattle biosecurity measures, according to Jason Banta, professor and Extension beef cattle specialist. “Biosecurity is just a set of best management practices that prevent infectious diseases from coming into a herd,” Banta explained to attendees at the recent Northeast Texas Cow–Calf Clinic. In recent years foot–and–mouth disease has been a global concern. Banta noted the federal government has taken several steps, including issuing an import ban on live animals from foot–and–mouth host countries, in order to lower the risk of a disease outbreak in the U.S. Because foot–and–mouth disease is classified as foreign, Banta said international visitors should be monitored to protect the herd. He said these visitors should, ideally, be kept away from livestock. Producers should also be aware of trichomoniasis. “The problem is, once a bull gets trich, he has it (for life),” said Banta. The infection is easily transmitted to several cows during breeding season (when one bull is allowed to breed many cows). Once it has been determined that all cows in a herd are clean, Banta said the chances of an outbreak are greatly reduced by purchasing and utilizing virgin bulls.

Source: [http://www.countryworldnews.com/Editorial/ETX/2007/et0222bio\\_secure.html](http://www.countryworldnews.com/Editorial/ETX/2007/et0222bio_secure.html)

**22. *February 21, Pennsylvania Game Commission* — Pennsylvania Game Commission conducts**

**CWD drill.** Pennsylvania Game Commission officials are in the midst of a full–blown emergency situation involving suspected cases of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in seven areas of the state. Of course, it isn't real; it is a series of simulation exercises to test the Game Commission's emergency preparedness to review the effectiveness of the agency's CWD response plan. The decision to hold the drill was a product of two meetings to review and update the state's response plan, as well as the agency's internal operational plan. On Monday evening, February 19, Walter Cottrell, Game Commission wildlife veterinarian, and Calvin DuBrock, Game Commission Bureau of Wildlife Management director, called agency staff on the CWD response team to start the drill. Cottrell and DuBrock told staff to report to their offices for a meeting Tuesday, February 20, to begin to review prepared scenarios. To more fully evaluate preparedness, the agency developed different scenarios for each of the six region offices and the Harrisburg headquarters. Each scenario had a different set of facts, variables and challenges that staff has to work through. The agency's CWD response team will meet on February 27 to review its actions and decisions, and then consider modifications to improve the agency response plan.

CWD information: <http://www.cwd-info.org/>

Source: <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/pgc/cwp/view.asp?Q=171209&A=11>

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## **Food Sector**

23. *February 21, Bloomberg* — **Whole Foods agrees to buy Wild Oats.** Whole Foods Market Inc., the largest U.S. natural-foods grocer, said it agreed to buy rival Boulder, CO-based Wild Oats Markets Inc. for \$565 million. Buying Wild Oats will help counter slowing growth at Whole Foods, which faced competition from other grocery stores selling organic and prepared food. Whole Foods will add 110 stores in 24 states and Canada's westernmost province of British Columbia. All of Whole Foods' 11 operating regions will gain stores. Some Wild Oats stores will be closed and others that overlap with Whole Foods stores in development probably will be relocated, Whole Foods said.

Source: [http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20670001&refer=&sid=a\\_1eDLpdB5Qic](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20670001&refer=&sid=a_1eDLpdB5Qic)

24. *February 21, Associated Press* — **Mushrooms recalled.** BJ's Wholesale club announced a voluntary recall of its prepackaged, private label brand mushrooms on Wednesday, February 21, after testing turned up possible trace amounts of E. coli bacteria. BJ's, based in Natick, MA, recalled all its "Wellsley Farms" mushrooms purchased between February 11 and February 19. BJ's said it had received no reports of illnesses related to the mushrooms. The possible E. coli was found during a routine produce inspection. The company runs 172 clubs and 96 gas stations in 16 states.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/02/21/ap3449898.html>

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## **Water Sector**

25. *February 22, Xinhua (China)* — **China sets water-saving target by 2010.** China planned to cut its water consumption for per unit GDP growth by 20 percent by the end of 2010, or an annual drop of four percent during the 2006–2010 period, according to the Ministry of Water Resources. According to the target, a total of 69 billion cubic meters of water will be saved in the five-year period through reduction of per unit GDP water consumption. Statistics from the ministry show that China's per 10,000 yuan GDP water consumption was 399 cubic meters in 2004, about four times the world average and eight times that of the U.S. and other developed countries. China's water consumption for per 10,000 yuan industrial added value was 196 cubic meters in 2004, compared with less than 50 cubic meters in developed countries. China only had 60 percent to 65 percent of its industrial water recycled, compared with 80 percent to 85 percent in developed countries.

Source: [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2007-02/22/content\\_812219.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2007-02/22/content_812219.htm)

26. *February 21, Daily Sentinel (CO)* — **Cause of duck deaths at water plants vexing Colorado Department of Wildlife.** Biologists from the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) continue to puzzle over the possible causes for the deaths of more than 600 waterfowl at several water treatment plants across Denver and Boulder. According to the DOW, the ducks have been collected from various sites around the Denver metro area, including Metro Wastewater, Northglenn Water Treatment Facility, Boulder Wastewater, the Littleton/Englewood Wastewater treatment ponds and Sunfish Lake. Four of the five sites are at or near wastewater treatment plants, although a definite connection has not yet been made. So far none of the birds have shown clinical signs of the disease, the DOW reported. Most of the ducks appear to be suffering from malnutrition and loss of waterproofing, causing them to die from hypothermia.

Source: <http://www.gjsentinel.com/sports/content/sports/stories/2007>

27. *February 20, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* — **EPA effort addresses Rhode Island's harmful sewage overflows.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) New England Regional Office ordered five Rhode Island municipalities and a wastewater utility to take steps to stop harmful raw sewage overflows from seeping from city pipes and wastewater systems into the state's waterways. EPA's issuance of Administrative Compliance Orders is part of a new effort to combat the serious water quality problems caused by Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) in the state. The EPA Orders were issued to: the Narragansett Bay Commission and the Cities of Providence, Barrington, Smithfield, Cranston and Bristol. SSOs are caused by breakdowns in the system of pipes, pumps and other equipment that municipalities and wastewater utilities use to collect and transport sewage to wastewater treatment plants. These unlawful discharges often occur due to blockages; structural, mechanical or electrical failures; or from excess flows that enter wastewater collection systems. Many of the problems can be linked to inadequate maintenance. When a SSO occurs, raw sewage is released from the wastewater collection system onto streets, or into basements, or surface waters. Discharges of untreated sewage from SSOs are a significant cause of water quality violations in New England. Significant property damage and public health risks may also result from sewage backups into homes and other structures.  
Source: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/9825b523864fc3e6852572880065beca?OpenDocument>

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## **Public Health Sector**

28. *February 22, Associated Press* — **European Union may need two years to prepare for flu.** It will take at least two years before the European Union (EU) is fully ready to deal with a flu pandemic, the bloc's disease control agency said Thursday, February 22. While all EU countries have completed national preparedness plans for how to deal with a possible pandemic, more work is needed to make them fully operational, the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), said in a report. The ECDC's report was based on a review of what 25 EU countries — all bloc members except recent additions Bulgaria and Romania — as well as non-EU members Norway and Iceland have done to prepare for a pandemic. The ECDC said countries still need better multi-sectoral planning, to make sure government agencies can effectively cooperate on curbing an outbreak, as well as increase efforts prevent the spread of seasonal influenza.  
Report: [http://www.ecdc.eu.int/pdf/Pandemic\\_preparedness.pdf](http://www.ecdc.eu.int/pdf/Pandemic_preparedness.pdf)  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/22/AR2007022200349.html>
29. *February 22, Agence France-Press* — **Bird flu containment strategy working, says animal health chief.** Countries working to contain bird flu on farms have also rolled back infection amongst humans, the head of the world agency tackling animal health said on Thursday, February 22. "We note that all the countries that are tackling the avian disease also have stopped human cases," the director general of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Bernard Vallat said. Detected cases of humans falling sick from H5N1 had dried up in Vietnam,

which with 42 dead has the second highest toll in the world, said Vallat. In Thailand, where the virus has killed 17 people, a recent flareup had claimed one life but none since then, he added. The OIE recommends systematic culling of flocks suspected to have been contaminated by the virus and for other flocks to be vaccinated if this first defensive wall is breached. Vallat said the OIE's focus at present was on Indonesia, where 64 people have died; on Egypt with 13 dead; and on Nigeria, where one person has died.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070222/hl\\_afp/healthflufarmoie\\_070222113458](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070222/hl_afp/healthflufarmoie_070222113458)

**30. February 22, San Gabriel Tribune (CA) — Talk of biotoxins raises concerns in Pasadena.**

Pasadena, CA's Health Department issued an announcement last weekend, a statement alerting the public to something it then said merited no concern. "On Saturday, February 10, routine environmental sampling detected traces of a bacteria that can cause tularemia, an infectious disease, at a testing site in Pasadena," stated the release. "At this time, we do not believe that there is any threat to public health. Individuals do not need to modify their activities as a result of this occurrence," it quoted Los Angeles County Public Health Director Jonathan Fielding as saying. As it turns out, the find was part of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) bioweapons alert program. The program, called BioWatch, tests the air of major urban areas daily for "aerosolized biological agents of interest," said Chris Kelly, associate director of strategic communications for the DHS. Now going on its fourth year, it has collected about three million results from around the nation. Last weekend's tularemia alert is only the 17th positive result any of the sensors have detected, Kelly said. As with the Pasadena incident, health officials determined the other alerts were from natural sources. All have involved traces of the bacteria that cause tularemia or brucellosis.

Source: [http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci\\_5252753](http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci_5252753)

**31. February 22, Pig Progress (Netherlands) — Mysterious deaths in humans and pigs.** Three women in the remote Southern Highlands province in Papua New Guinea have died after eating contaminated pork. Another 200 people were treated with antibiotics, after having complained of fever. The deaths coincide with the deaths of approximately 1,000 pigs from an outbreak of an as yet unidentified disease. The pigs are reported to develop swollen necks, flu-like signs, fever and the antemortem decay of body parts resulting in death within days. Other animal species were reported to have died after developing similar symptoms.

Source: [http://www.pigprogress.net/ts\\_pi/pigprogress.portal/enc/\\_nfp\\_b/true/tspi\\_portlet\\_news\\_singleeditorschoice1\\_3\\_actionOverride/\\_2Fportlets\\_2Fts\\_2Fge\\_2Fnews\\_singleeditorschoice1\\_2Fcontent\\_2FshowDetailsList/windowLabel/tspi\\_portlet\\_news\\_singleeditorschoice1\\_3/tspi\\_portlet\\_news\\_singleeditorschoice1\\_3id/12720/desktopLabel/pigprogress/pageLabel/tspi\\_page\\_news\\_content/](http://www.pigprogress.net/ts_pi/pigprogress.portal/enc/_nfp_b/true/tspi_portlet_news_singleeditorschoice1_3_actionOverride/_2Fportlets_2Fts_2Fge_2Fnews_singleeditorschoice1_2Fcontent_2FshowDetailsList/windowLabel/tspi_portlet_news_singleeditorschoice1_3/tspi_portlet_news_singleeditorschoice1_3id/12720/desktopLabel/pigprogress/pageLabel/tspi_page_news_content/)

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## **Government Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

32. *February 22, Rutland Herald (VT)* — **Police agencies hold school terror training.** About 50 law enforcement officers from around Rutland County, VT, came together Tuesday, February 20, at Rutland High School to take part in a drill aimed at coordinating a police response to a school shooting. The exercise centered on police responding to a report of a person with a firearm inside the school. The timing of the exercise Tuesday coincided with school vacation week so students would not be in the hallways and classrooms. Similar drills are taking part across Vermont. In addition to State Police troopers, law enforcement officers from every department in the county took part in the exercise. Evans said the drill involved training officers to work in small teams in trying to find an active shooter or a gunman barricaded in a school. Source: <http://www.timesargus.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070222/NEWS02/702220342/1003/NEWS02>
33. *February 21, State of Pennsylvania* — **Snow storm response hampered by problems in preparation, execution and communication.** The inadequate response to last week's statewide winter storm in Pennsylvania began with poor planning and execution by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) in some key counties, but was further hampered by breakdowns in the Commonwealth's emergency response operations, according to a preliminary review announced Thursday, February 22, by Governor Edward G. Rendell's staff. According to Gregory Fajt, senior adviser to the Governor, the state "didn't execute well in the storm's early stages, and didn't escalate our response when we fell behind in some key areas. The result...was an inadequate...response' that left motorists stranded for hours on I-78 and forced lengthy closures of three interstate highways to allow PennDOT to remove accumulated ice and snow." PennDOT Secretary Allen D. Biehler said his agency's problems began with inadequate planning and internal communication. Joseph S. Martz, Secretary of Administration, noted that although the storm began on Tuesday morning, the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) did not fully activate the Emergency Operations Center until Wednesday evening. "The delay...hampered efforts to mount a coordinated response," Martz said. State Police Commissioner Colonel Jeffrey B. Miller said state troopers should have escalated the deteriorating conditions on specific sections to higher levels. Official Press Release: <http://www.state.pa.us/papower/cwp/view.asp?A=11&Q=460204>  
Source: <http://www.state.pa.us/papower/cwp/view.asp?A=11&Q=460204>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

34. *February 22, Federal Computer Week* — **GSA considers establishing IPv6 program office.** With the deadline for agencies to be IP Version 6-ready set for mid-2008, General Services Administration (GSA) officials are considering establishing a program office to guide GSA's compliance, and according to John Johnson, GSA's assistant commissioner for Integrated Technology Service, something could develop in the next several months. The Office of Management and Budget mandated in 2005 that agencies have an IPv6-ready network backbone by June 2008. Continuing on an evolution to IPv6-capable IT systems makes the deadline only a starting point, administration officials working closely with IPv6 transitions

have said. Officials are mulling over what the office would do, specifically what its goals and objectives would be. They are analyzing the migration's size and complexity regarding GSA's Networx contract, governmentwide acquisition contract programs and Schedules.

Source: <http://www.few.com/article97731-02-22-07-Web>

- 35. February 22, InformationWeek — Despite government data losses, security education spending not growing.** While laptop and data loss continue to plague government agencies, a new report shows that federal spending on user education remains stagnant. Out of an annual IT security budget of \$5.6 billion, the U.S. is spending \$140 million to \$150 million annually on security awareness and training, according to information security analyst Prabhat Agarwal. That user education number is expected to hold steady through 2012. Agarwal estimates that government employs between six million and 10 million people. In his report, Agarwal says users are the weakest link in the government's security — much like they are in the corporate world.

Report: <http://www.input.com/corp/press/detail.cfm?news=1311>

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/news/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=K1XPX1NPMLYF2QSNL0SKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleID=197008122>

- 36. February 22, SC Magazine — Former FBI agent: Youth turning to cybercrime for the money.** Young technology graduates from developing countries are being drawn into organized cybercrime believing they'll make more money than at legitimate jobs, according to Ed Gibson, chief security adviser for Microsoft U.K. Gibson, who addressed delegates at a security conference organized by Claranet in London Thursday, February 22, warned: "In countries like Ukraine, it is tempting for young people with a technology background to work for these hacking gangs because there is not a lot of money in legal jobs. Even when a person wants out, their family is threatened with violence so they continue to work for these organized criminals." The former FBI agent said that cybercrime gangs are operating in emerging nations—such as Ukraine and Bulgaria—to run online fraud campaigns because of lax law enforcement and lack of cooperation between authorities there in the West. "The police here in the U.K. and other developed countries are territorially and jurisdictionally bound," he said. "They can't just go to these emerging countries, where these cybercriminals are working, and liaise with the authorities there."

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/us/news/article/635172/former-fbi-agent-youth-turning-cybercrime-money/>

- 37. February 21, Government Computer News — NGA issues standards for geospatial intel interoperability.** The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) has publicly released a document outlining the overall National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) standards baseline. The baseline was developed and coordinated by the National Center for Geospatial Intelligence Standards, or NCGIS, which was formed by the NGA soon after September 11 with other Defense Department agencies, intelligence agencies, standards organizations, civil agencies, private industry and foreign partners. The purpose in establishing the set of standards is to enable data and service interoperability in the context of a service-oriented architecture. "Geospatial Intelligence Standards: Enabling a Common Vision," issued in November but released to the public February 20, endorses a set of key specifications known collectively as the Open Geospatial-Intelligence Consortium Spatial Data Infrastructure 1.0 baseline. These OGC standards include the OpenGISR Specifications for Web Feature Service (WFS),

Geography Markup Language (GML), Web Map Service (WMS), Styled Layer Descriptor (SLD), Catalogue Services (CS–Web) and Filter Encoding Specifications (FE).

“Geospatial Intelligence Standards: Enabling a Common Vision”

[http://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact\\_id=19983](http://portal.opengeospatial.org/files/?artifact_id=19983)

Source: [http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1\\_no1/43190-1.html](http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/43190-1.html)

## 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 Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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

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## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

**38. *February 22, Washington Post* — Five area levees need repairs.** Five flood–control levees around the Washington, DC area — two in Prince George's County and three in the District — have "unacceptable" maintenance problems that could reduce their ability to hold back water during a major storm, according to new information released by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The problems were identified after national levee inspection standards were tightened in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, a corps official said. More than 120 levees across the country were found to need urgent repair. Two of the levees are along the Anacostia River in Prince George's. The three in the District include one decades–old berm on the Mall that was designed to keep the Tidal Basin from overflowing into downtown streets. In all five cases, local officials downplayed the danger, saying that the problems were mostly minor — such as tree roots intruding into earthen levees — and easy to fix. But an official at the Army Corps of Engineers said that any weakened levee should be a concern. "These projects are at higher risk than projects that are properly maintained," said Tony Vidal, chief of the Civil Works Branch at the Corps of Engineers office in Baltimore.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/21/AR2007022100548.html>

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## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

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

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

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