



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 02 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

- CNN reports more than 500 flights at the Atlanta and Charlotte airports were canceled as wintry weather brought rain, sleet, and freezing rain across North Georgia and into the Carolinas early Thursday, February 1; freezing rain is expected to develop in the Washington metro area Thursday night. (See item [10](#))
- Reuters reports experts have called for closer study of less lethal strains of the H5N1 bird flu virus because they might be more likely candidates to spark an influenza pandemic. (See item [21](#))
- The Beacon News reports Kane County in Illinois is implementing an emergency telephone notification system that calls the public with a pre-recorded message providing vital information during an emergency and is capable of dialing up 60,000 residents per hour. (See item [27](#))

### 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](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## 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 01, Knoxville News Sentinel (TN)* — TVA nuclear plant to introduce the first tritium gas produced in the U.S. in nearly 20 years. Using material from a Tennessee Valley

Authority (TVA) nuclear plant, a federal facility in South Carolina will introduce to the nation's nuclear weapons supply chain the first tritium gas produced in the United States in nearly 20 years. Tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen, is an essential component of nuclear weapons, giving them their deadly blast capability. With a relatively short half-life of 12.3 years, tritium in the nation's nuclear stockpile must be replenished regularly. TVA has a contract with the Department of Energy (DOE) to produce irradiated rods at Watts Bar Nuclear Plant in Spring City, TN. Those rods are trucked to the Savannah River Site, a nuclear materials processing center in Aiken, SC, where tritium gas is extracted from the rods at a recently completed facility. Since 1988, when the last heavy water reactor at Savannah River shut down, the nation's weapons stockpile has relied on recycled tritium gas from dismantled nuclear weapons. TVA is the sole source of tritium for DOE under a plan drafted in 1999. The federal utility's role in producing tritium has sparked controversy for bucking the tradition of keeping the nation's military and commercial nuclear programs separate.

Source: [http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/business/article/0.1406.KNS\\_376\\_5319469.00.html](http://www.knoxnews.com/kns/business/article/0.1406.KNS_376_5319469.00.html)

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

2. *January 30, WAFB (LA)* — **Highway reopened following chemical leak.** Residents in Belle Chasse, LA, had a brief scare Tuesday morning, January 30. A chemical leak at a nearby Chevron plant caused authorities to temporarily open a shelter and close Highway 23. The closure caused minor traffic delays. Later, a Chevron spokesperson said the chemical release was contained to the plant.

Source: [http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=6011000&nav=menu57\\_2](http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=6011000&nav=menu57_2)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

3. *February 01, CongressDaily* — **Rising Army, Marine Corps costs may trigger budget war.** The Pentagon is bracing for a prolonged budget war that may begin once President Bush rolls out his fiscal 2008 budget request Monday, February 5. Despite Defense budgets that surpass Vietnam-era spending levels, service leaders are becoming increasingly concerned that the mounting financial needs of the Army and Marine Corps will eat into other accounts, especially Air Force and Navy procurement dollars. Until now, the Pentagon has largely divvied up the services' shares of the defense budget the same way every year: the Army receives 24 percent, the Air Force 29 percent, and the Navy and Marines a combined 31 percent. It is a delicate balance that has kept the services from moving aggressively to raid each other's accounts to pay for their additional needs. But Bush's recently announced plans to grow the ground forces by 92,000 troops over the next five years — an expansion intended to ease the stress of constant deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan — could upset the interservice peace over budget shares.

Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=36023&dcn=to\\_daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36023&dcn=to_daysnews)

4. *January 31, National Defense* — **China's defense build-up merits closer attention from Navy, say analysts.** China has been beefing up its military might, and the rapid growth of its

navy, in particular, is creating disagreements in the Department of Defense over whether such a build-up ought to be perceived as a threat to U.S. interests in the Pacific. Analysts who have been monitoring China's emerging maritime clout say the U.S. Navy needs to incorporate those developments into its immediate and future plans. The Navy's 30-year shipbuilding plan, which calls for 313 ships, presumably includes China contingencies, said Ronald O'Rourke, naval analyst at the Congressional Research Office. But there is potential tension between the Iraq and Afghanistan operations and China as a planning priority. "Based on the Navy's recent emphasis on the global war on terror-related operations...observers around town might conclude that the country in the future will need a navy that looks something like a larger, modified version of the Coast Guard — a fleet with a lot of littoral combat ships and some logistics capabilities for disaster relief operations," he said. "Such a conclusion would do little to justify the higher-end naval capabilities that the Navy hopes to fund in the coming years, many of which would be required for combat scenarios involving China."

Source: <http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2007/January/ChinaDefense.htm>

5. *January 31, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-439T: Defense Logistics: Preliminary Observations on the Army's Implementation of Its Equipment Reset Strategies (Testimony)**. Continuing military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan are taking a heavy toll on the condition and readiness of the Army's equipment. Harsh combat and environmental conditions in theater over sustain periods exacerbates the wear and tear on equipment. Since fiscal year 2002, Congress has appropriated about \$38 billion to the Army for the reset (repair, replacement, and modernization) of equipment that has been damaged or lost as a result of combat operations. As operations continue in Iraq and Afghanistan and the Army's equipment reset requirements increase, the potential for reset costs to significantly increase in future Department of Defense annual budgets also increases. For example, the Army estimates that it will need about \$12 billion to \$13 billion per year for equipment reset until operations cease, and up to two years thereafter. This testimony addresses (1) the extent to which the Army can track and report equipment reset expenditures in a way that confirms that funds appropriated for reset are expended for that purpose, and (2) whether the Army can be assured that its equipment reset strategies will sustain future equipment readiness for deployed as well as non-deployed units while meeting ongoing requirements.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07439thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-439T>

6. *January 24, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-435CG: DoD Budget and Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities (Presentation by the Comptroller General)**. On January 24, David M. Walker, comptroller general of the U.S., delivered a briefing on the Department of Defense (DoD) budget and transformation challenges and opportunities before the House Committee on Armed Services. To view the presentation, see source.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cghome/d07435cg.pdf>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

7.

*February 01, Reuters* — **Study: U.S. identity theft losses fall.** Americans lost about \$49.3 billion in 2006 to criminals who stole their identities, an 11.5 percent decline that may reflect increased vigilance among consumers and businesses, a study released on Thursday, February 1, shows. Losses declined from a revised \$55.7 billion in 2005, according to the third annual study by Javelin Strategy & Research. They had increased in each of the prior two years. The average identity theft fraud fell 9 percent to \$5,720 from \$6,278, while the median — where half were larger and half were smaller — held steady at \$750. "Businesses are doing a better job screening, and consumers are doing better at locking up information and monitoring their accounts," said James Van Dyke, founder and president of Javelin. Notwithstanding the apparent decline in fraud, security experts say identity theft remains a big problem, as scammers try to stay one step ahead of consumers and businesses. Some are fighting back. U.S. regulators, for example, ordered banks by the end of last year to require a second form of identification before letting many customers transact online.

Source: [http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyID=2007-02-01T083003Z\\_01\\_N31383185\\_RTRUKOC\\_0\\_US-IDTHEFT.xml&WTmodLoc=Home-C5-domesticNews-2](http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=domesticNews&storyID=2007-02-01T083003Z_01_N31383185_RTRUKOC_0_US-IDTHEFT.xml&WTmodLoc=Home-C5-domesticNews-2)

8. *February 01, Washington Post* — **U.S. probes equity firm tied to Islamic investors.** The counterterrorism division of the Department of Justice is investigating whether a private equity firm in Boston that manages hundreds of millions of dollars for Muslim investors overseas violated tax laws. The investigation of Overland Capital Group was disclosed in a filing with U.S. District Court in Boston. The filing claims that Overland and a subsidiary of Dar Al-Maal Al-Islami Trust (DMI), a financial group in Geneva, conducted acts "that implicate potential violation of the Internal Revenue Code." The filing does not mention terrorism, though it was submitted by a U.S. attorney who works in counterterrorism. Subsidiaries of DMI, an umbrella organization for Islamic financial institutions, have been named as suspects in probes by U.S. counterterrorism agencies. DMI also is a defendant in a civil lawsuit brought by families of victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks, who claim that it funded al Qaeda. DMI has denied those claims and noted that none of its officials has been charged with terrorism-related crimes.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/31/AR2007013101900.html>

9. *January 31, Computing* — **Phishing overtakes spam for the first time.** For the first time the proportion of phishing attacks has exceeded the number of threats from virus or Trojan attacks, according to MessageLabs. The increase in phishing attacks is due to several factors. Firstly, virus attacks have become more targeted and are no longer occurring as one large outbreak. Secondly, online merchants have recently shifted toward deploying two-factor authentication methods which have given rise to 'man-in-the-middle' phishing sites. An increasing number of phishing sites are now using Flash content rather than HTML in an attempt to evade anti-phishing technology deployed in Web browsers. Successive virus outbreaks, such as StormWorm appear to be moving toward the WarezoV model. The large numbers of new variants combine a number of anti-countermeasure features, like the use of rootkit technology, which make the virus increasingly difficult to detect and remove using traditional anti-virus methods.

Source: <http://www.vnunet.com/computing/news/2173899/phishing-overtakes-spam>

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## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

- 10. *February 01, CNN* — Flights canceled as storm socks Southeast.** More than 500 flights at the Atlanta and Charlotte airports were canceled as wintry weather brought rain, sleet and freezing rain across North Georgia and into the Carolinas early Thursday, February 1. Atlanta's Hartsfield–Jackson International Airport canceled 450 incoming and outgoing flights, according to Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson Kathleen Bergen. Those flights included 200 Delta Air Lines cancellations and 50 at AirTran Airways. "The rest of the cancellations are scattered amongst other airlines," Bergen said. A few planes in Atlanta were de-iced Thursday as a precaution, but most didn't need it as temperatures stayed above freezing. At North Carolina's Charlotte Douglas International Airport, 75 flights were canceled. Farther to the north, light freezing rain was expected to develop in the Washington metro area Thursday night and then turn to snow, with one to two inches of snow accumulation expected by Friday morning  
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/WEATHER/02/01/winter.weather/index.html>
- 11. *February 01, Newsday (NY)* — Water main break disrupts LIRR.** A water main break west of the Hempstead Gardens station knocked out service on the Long Island Rail Road's (LIRR) West Hempstead branch for about three hours Thursday, February 1. Third rail electrical power and service was restored at 8:21 a.m. EST, but speed restrictions could cause minor delays throughout the day, LIRR spokesperson Susan McGowan said. The flooding began at 5:30 a.m. and caused the suspension of service of four westbound trains and one eastbound train, McGowan said. The railroad used buses to shuttle commuters between West Hempstead and Valley Stream. The flooding occurred after a 12-inch feeder main broke, according to West Hempstead Water District superintendent Robert P. York. Electrical power to the third rail was immediately shut off.  
Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/longisland/ny-lihemp0201.0.6765326.story?coll=ny-top-headlines>
- 12. *February 01, KGW (OR)* — New option at PDX for travelers with banned items.** Oregon's Portland International Airport (PDX) is offering a new option for travelers who accidentally bring banned items with them, but don't want to throw them away. PDX started a new service on Monday, January 29, called Mailsafe Express. It allows travelers to mail the banned items to their destinations. When prohibited items are identified, the security officer will give the traveler the option of surrendering them, leaving the line to deal with the items, or using Mailsafe. If the passenger chooses Mailsafe, the security officer will take the items to the mailing station. The agent will choose a category on the touch screen that describes the items. Then they place the items in an envelope, which is deposited into the Mailsafe machine. The cost for the service starts at \$8.95 plus postage.  
Source: [http://www.kgw.com/news-local/stories/kgw\\_020107\\_news\\_pdx\\_mailsafe.3f36a228.html](http://www.kgw.com/news-local/stories/kgw_020107_news_pdx_mailsafe.3f36a228.html)
- 13. *January 31, Government Accountability Office* — GAO-07-378T: Border Security: US-VISIT Program Faces Strategic, Operational, and Technological Challenges at Land Ports of Entry (Testimony).** This testimony summarizes a December 2006 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) efforts

to implement the U.S. Visitor and Immigrant Status Indicator Technology (US–VISIT) program at land ports of entry (POE). US–VISIT is designed to collect, maintain, and share data on selected foreign nationals entering and exiting the United States at air, sea, and land POEs. These data, including biometric identifiers like digital fingerprints, are to be used to screen persons against watch lists, verify identities, and record arrival and departure. This testimony addresses DHS’s efforts to (1) implement US–VISIT entry capability, (2) implement US–VISIT exit capability, and (3) define how US–VISIT fits with other emerging border security initiatives. GAO analyzed DHS and US–VISIT documents, interviewed program officials, and visited 21 land POEs with varied traffic levels on both borders. GAO recommended that DHS improve management controls for US–VISIT; develop performance measures to assess the impact of US–VISIT at land POEs; and ensure that a statutorily mandated report describes how DHS will move to a biometric entry/exit capability and align US–VISIT with emerging land border security initiatives. DHS generally agreed and said that it has begun to or plans to implement GAO’s recommendations.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07378thigh.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-378T>

14. *January 31, Department of Transportation* — **FRA issues final environmental review on proposed DM&E Powder River Basin project.** The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) on Wednesday, January 31, announced it has determined that the proposed Dakota, Minnesota, & Eastern (DM&E) Powder River Basin project has met the requirements of the federal environmental review process, and outlined new measures the railroad must take to improve safety and air quality if the pending DM&E \$2.3 billion Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) loan application is approved. The release of FRA’s final environmental review, known as a Record of Decision (ROD), marks the start of a 90–day clock within which the agency must approve or disapprove the DM&E loan application. The final decision will be made after thorough consideration of an extensive and independent evaluation of the railroad, the proposed project, and the RRIF loan application. In completing its review, FRA adopted the environmental impact statements issued by the U.S. Surface Transportation Board in its evaluation of the proposed DM&E project, including all 147 environmental and safety conditions to address the impact of the project on communities along the route. FRA considered nearly 2,500 public comments before reaching its conclusions. A full and complete copy of the ROD and the Final Section 4(f) Statement can be found at

<http://www.fra.dot.gov>

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/FRA0407.htm>

15. *January 31, Department of Transportation* — **Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration revises requirements for oxygen cylinders and oxygen generators carried by aircraft.** To reduce the risk of an oxygen–fueled aircraft cargo fire, the Department of Transportation (DOT) published a final rule in Wednesday, January 31’s Federal Register that requires compressed oxygen cylinders and chemical oxygen generators to be packed in outer packaging that meets new flame penetration and thermal resistance requirements. The new packaging standard will prevent compressed oxygen cylinders and oxygen generators from rupturing and venting their contents and potentially causing a fire, said Thomas J. Barrett, administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Previously, a limited number of oxygen cylinders were allowed in the cabin and cargo compartments of passenger–carrying aircraft, as long as each was placed in an overpack or outer packaging that

met Air Transport Association (ATA) specifications. The new packaging standard exceeds the current ATA specifications.

Additional information about the new final rule can be found online at the DOT Docket Management System, <http://dms.dot.gov/>, under Docket No. RSPA-04-17664 (HM-224B).

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/phmsa0107.htm>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

### **16. *January 31, Memphis Business Journal* — FedEx acquires Indian air freight company.**

Memphis-based FedEx Corp. announced Wednesday, January 31, it has completed its \$30 million acquisition of an Indian air freight company. FedEx Express has bought Prakash Air Freight Pvt. Ltd., which is one of the largest domestic express companies operating in India. PAFEX has been the FedEx service provider in India since 2002.

Source: <http://biz.yahoo.com/bizj/070131/1410878.html?.v=1>

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## **Agriculture Sector**

### **17. *February 01, New York Times* — Agriculture Department urges big overhaul in farm policy.**

The Bush administration Wednesday, January 31, proposed legislation that would reduce payments to farmers by \$10 billion over the next five years and cut off support for wealthy ones entirely. If approved by Congress, it would also reduce some trade-distorting payments that have gotten the U.S. into trouble with the World Trade Organization, and might put pressure on the European Union to reduce its own farm subsidies, steps that could restart stalled global trade talks. But aspects of the plan, especially the proposal to cut off payments to farmers earning more than \$200,000 a year, are already rankling some farm groups. Mary Kay Thatcher, a lobbyist with the American Farm Bureau Federation, said farmers would have “serious concerns” about that provision. She said the federation’s figures showed that the provision would affect 75,000 of the 700,000 farmers who have been collecting farm payments.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/01/washington/01farm.html?\\_r=1&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2007/02/01/washington/01farm.html?_r=1&oref=slogin)

### **18. *February 01, Daily Democrat (CA)* — Unprecedented food safety bills to be introduced in California.**

A Central Valley legislator plans to introduce three bills today that would impose unprecedented food-safety regulations on California's lettuce and spinach growers, nudging aside a farm-industry proposal. State Sen. Dean Florez, D-Shafter, said his legislation is aimed at preventing food-borne illness such as the nationwide outbreaks that were traced to California produce contaminated with deadly E. coli bacteria last year. Florez released details of three bills on Wednesday, January 31, that would greatly expand the authority of the state Department of Health Services. One bill would require the department to develop an extensive set of safety rules, including prohibiting the use of creek water for irrigation or raw manure for fertilizer. Other rules would require a minimum distance between crops and livestock, set standards for testing water and soil, and establish penalties for non-compliance that could include fines up to \$25,000 or jail time. Another bill would require growers of leafy vegetables to register with the

state and pay a licensing fee to cover the costs of state inspections and enforcement. A third bill would establish minimum requirements for a "traceback system" that would make it easier to identify the source of contaminated produce.

Source: [http://www.dailydemocrat.com/news/ci\\_5135062](http://www.dailydemocrat.com/news/ci_5135062)

**19. *January 29, Des Moines Register (IA)* — State probes dead fish in eastern Iowa river.** A fish kill on the North Maquoketa River near Dyersville is being investigated by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). By Monday, January 29, the DNR had tracked the fish kill through Dyersville. The fish kill appears to have originated from Crop Production Services in Dyersville where a fiberglass container was being filled with liquid fertilizer that apparently leaked. The spill took place within an area of secondary containment which apparently leaked as well, allowing the fertilizer to reach a storm sewer which flows less than a block away to the North Fork of the Maquoketa River.

Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070129/NEWS/70129033>

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## **Food Sector**

**20. *February 01, Los Angeles Times* — Food safety makes list of flawed federal programs.** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) on Wednesday, January 31, added food safety to its list of critically flawed federal programs, saying that splintered jurisdiction among 15 agencies has left the nation vulnerable to outbreaks of food-borne illness or a terrorist attack. Meanwhile, a senior administration official said President Bush would seek an increase of about \$11 million for food safety in the fiscal 2008 budget he is scheduled to release Monday, February 5. Much of the funding would be aimed at reducing the risk from produce outbreaks, such as the E. coli-contaminated California spinach that caused three deaths and sickened more than 200 last fall. The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, said it added food safety to its high-risk list of federal programs because the system is out-of-date, often unscientific and lacks accountability. The list, created in 1990, serves as a kind of tip sheet for Congress, alerting lawmakers and their staffs to problems simmering below the surface of the federal bureaucracy. One agency just off the list: the U.S. Postal Service.

High-Risk Report: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07310.pdf>

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/politics/la-na-food1feb01.1.1060366.story?coll=la-news-politics-national>

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**



21. *February 01, Reuters* — **Experts: Do not ignore less virulent bird flu strains.** Experts have called for closer study of less lethal strains of the H5N1 bird flu virus because they might be more likely candidates to spark an influenza pandemic. Scientists have identified at least four major variants, or "genotypes", of the H5N1 virus since it made its first-known jump to humans in Hong Kong in 1997. Topping the list is the Z-genotype, which has been found in northern China, Indonesia, Indochina, parts of Africa, Europe and the Middle East, and killed more than half the people it was known to have infected. Less well known is the V-genotype that turned up in South Korea and Japan in late 2003. This variant infected at least nine South Koreans who took part in poultry culling in late 2003 and early 2004 to stop outbreaks in the country. None of them suffered any serious symptoms and all recovered. Scientists warned against dismissing these less virulent H5N1 strains since they bear more likeness to viruses that have killed millions of people in the past. Past pandemics were deadly not because of high mortality rates but the efficiency with which they spread among people.  
Source: <http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/world.aspx?ID=BD4A3736.08>
22. *February 01, Reuters* — **Indonesia says has experimental human bird flu vaccine.** Indonesia has developed a bird flu vaccine for humans but it is still at an early experimental stage, the head of the country's national committee on avian influenza said on Thursday, February 1. "We have developed an inter-pandemic bird flu vaccine for humans using the H5N1 virus Indonesia strain, but it's still at the experimental level in the lab," bird flu commission chief Bayu Krisnamurthi said. "It is not yet for commercial production. It still has a long way to go."  
Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/JAK89639.htm>
23. *January 31, Associated Press* — **Guide urges tiered flu outbreak response.** States should plan for a flu pandemic much as coastal areas gear up for hurricanes: You act differently when a weak Category 1 storm's heading in than when a powerhouse Category 5 is offshore. The message is central to guidelines being released by the U.S. government to help states prepare for the next worldwide outbreak of a super-flu. An Associated Press look at the nation's preparations found little agreement on best policies, even among neighboring states. The new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will not tell states what infection-control steps to take. But officials familiar with the document say it urges a tiered response that ratchets up depending on how bad the new flu is in each community -- and reserves the most drastic actions for the worst outbreak. Most preparations until now have focused on the worst-case scenario of a pandemic as severe as in 1918, when 50 million people worldwide died. But states should not race to close schools, for example, if the next pandemic is much less severe, like the one in 1968 that killed one million people.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/31/AR2007013101505.html>
24. *January 31, Agence France-Presse* — **Nigeria reports first human bird flu death.** Nigeria reported its first human death from bird flu in the commercial capital Lagos, almost one year after the disease first hit poultry in the north of the country. The fatality was a 22-year-old woman who died on January 17 and became the first confirmed case of avian influenza in Nigeria in "tests conducted by Nigerian scientists using in-country laboratory facilities," an information ministry statement said. The results of tests on samples from two other people who died after suffering flu-like symptoms have not so far been conclusive, a health ministry official said. "We have evidence that three people have died, two from Lagos and one from

Taraba State but we are confirming only one case from the laboratory test. The confirmed case is from Lagos," Abdullahi Nasidi, director of public health at the ministry, said. Nigerian health officials earlier this week said they were testing 14 human samples for suspected bird flu and that they had sent samples to Europe for further testing.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070131/hl\\_afp/nigeriahealthflu\\_070131175205;\\_ylt=ApYaN6HoRtG9QvfrU87KfRKJOrgF:\\_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070131/hl_afp/nigeriahealthflu_070131175205;_ylt=ApYaN6HoRtG9QvfrU87KfRKJOrgF:_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--)

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## **Government Sector**

### **25. *January 30, Swampscott Reporter (MA)* — School security plans tightened and explained.**

After a fatal stabbing at Lincoln–Sudbury High School and the arrest of a Swampscott Middle School charged with carrying two throwing knives to school, all in the past couple of weeks in Swampscott, MA, School Committee members met to discuss safety issues. Kevin Breen, wearing the quadruple hats of Fire Department captain, emergency management director, School Committee liaison to the Building Committee, and former School Committee member, had the most comprehensive discussion. He explained the security measures that will be in place when classes start at the new high school September 5. They include windows that open to allow escape, security cameras that will watch and digitally record every inch of the school's interior and exterior, a sophisticated programmable "key" system, lockable classroom doors and straight–line corridors that can be easily monitored by real people. And, by design, fire and police vehicles can drive right up to every wall. Breen said even the landscaping plan was devised with security in mind, adding attractiveness to the site but without providing an unwanted person any place to conceal himself. And the structure has "the most sophisticated fire protection system of any building in town."

Source: [http://www.townonline.com/swampscott/homepage/89989674443871\\_35487](http://www.townonline.com/swampscott/homepage/89989674443871_35487)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

### **26. *February 01, Telegram & Gazette (MA)* — Massachusetts town holds emergency drill.**

Charlton Middle School in Charlton, MA, was the scene of the state's first full–scale, functional exercise involving the movement of ambulances responding to a mock emergency at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. Known as the "Big E," the annual fair is the largest in the northeast. The purpose of the drill, which featured a classroom session led by Brewster Fire Chief Roy E. Jones III that reviewed the night's events, was to mobilize and test a statewide emergency radio system. Fire departments have a statewide mobilization plan, and last night's drill was a test of an ambulance response plan that is based on the Fire Department model, according to Chief Wilson. Chief Wilson explained that ambulances from the western part of the state would be the first called to a disaster at the Big E. For ambulances from this area to be called to West Springfield, there would have to be an emergency affecting more than 100 people, he said.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070201/>

27. *February 01, Beacon News (IL)* — **New emergency call system capable of dialing up 60,000 residents per hour.** Kane County in Illinois is implementing an emergency telephone notification system that calls the public with a pre-recorded message providing vital information during an emergency. "The CodeRED system will give county officials a new tool to help disseminate emergency information during any emergency or disaster," said Don Bryant, director of the Kane County Office of Emergency Management. Bryant said emergency management officials can record the message, then call up to 60,000 listed telephone numbers per hour. It is similar to a reverse 911 system, he said. Anyone with an unlisted phone number or cell phone must register on the emergency management office's Website, [www.kcoem.org](http://www.kcoem.org) and enter their information on the CodeRED Residential and Business Data Collection page. He said the information will be kept secure and confidential. The Office of Emergency Management will use the system to relay information about boil orders, local Amber Alerts or to provide information after a natural or man-made disaster, Bryant said. Officials use a map to pinpoint where calls should be made, he said.

Additional information about CodeRED: <http://www.kcoem.org/CodeRED/CodeRED.htm>

Source: <http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/beaconnews/news/238528.2>

[1\\_AU01\\_CODERED\\_S1.article](#)

28. *February 01, WKYT-TV (KY)* — **Statewide crime prevention campaign launched in Kentucky.** The Kentucky Intelligence Fusion Center has launched the "See Something, Say Something" statewide campaign; an effort aimed at improving crime prevention in Kentucky. The campaign urges citizens to report suspicious activity of any type to an anonymous toll-free tip line or to local law enforcement tip lines. Analysts located in the Intelligence Fusion Center answer calls and record information for distribution to the appropriate local, state or federal law enforcement agencies. The Kentucky Intelligence Fusion Center was established to better secure the commonwealth against criminal activity and domestic and international terrorism. Anonymously report suspicious criminal or terrorist activity to: 1-866-EYE-ON-KY (393-6659); citizens may also issue a tip on-line by visiting

<http://www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov/tipline>

Source: <http://www.wkyt.com/wymtnews/headlines/5429771.html>

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## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

29. *February 01, IDG News Service* — **California police arrest 'mid-level' software pirate.** California police arrested a man on Tuesday, January 30, who allegedly sold illegally copied Microsoft and Adobe Systems software on the Internet for seven years, netting him an estimated \$750,000. Gad Zamir, 64, of Menifee, CA, was arrested after an eight-month investigation. Police said they found 15 computers, \$13,000 in cash, and software valued at \$283,000 in Zamir's home, calling it a "mid-level" piracy operation.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/02/01/HNcaliforniaarrest\\_spirate\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/02/01/HNcaliforniaarrest_spirate_1.html)

30. *February 01, Reuters* — **Piracy worked for us, Romania president tells Gates.** Pirated

Microsoft Corp. software helped Romania to build a vibrant technology industry, Romanian President Traian Basescu told the company's co-founder Bill Gates on Thursday, February 1. Basescu was meeting the software giant's chairman in Bucharest to celebrate the opening of a Microsoft global technical center in the Romanian capital. "Piracy helped the young generation discover computers. It set off the development of the IT industry in Romania," Basescu said during a joint news conference with Gates. Former communist Romania, which has just joined the European Union, introduced anti-piracy legislation 10 years ago but copyright infringements are still rampant. Experts say some 70 percent of software used in Romania is pirated.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=N13BVLXSC5OXEQSNDLRCKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=197002479>

31. *February 01, Register (UK)* — **'Contact us' attack takes out mail servers.** The "contact us" feature on many Websites is often insecure and makes it easy to launch denial-of-service attacks on corporate mail servers, according to UK-based security consultancy SecureTest. The "contact us" feature is usually a form that allows surfers to submit comments to the people running a Website. According to SecureTest, these forms can be used to launch denial-of-service attacks through endemic security weaknesses that have largely been overlooked. The significance of the attack varies, depending on whether or not firms host their Websites internally. Even sites hosted by third parties can still be vulnerable to denial-of-service attack through misuse of Web-based forms, but the risk is probably the worst for firms that cost their own systems.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/02/01/web\\_form\\_dos\\_risk/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2007/02/01/web_form_dos_risk/)

32. *January 31, Information Week* — **Microsoft challenges newest Word zero-day.** Microsoft on Wednesday, January 31, disputed a security company's claim that a fifth unpatched vulnerability in Microsoft Word was being actively exploited by criminals. On Tuesday, Symantec notified users it had multiple exploit samples that represented new targeted attacks using a zero-day bug in Word 2003. In a warning sent to customers of its DeepSight threat management service, Symantec said that the attacks were "exploiting a previously undocumented and currently unpatched vulnerability." Opening a malformed Word 2003 document triggers the vulnerability, which then allows the exploit — a form of the Mdropper.x Trojan horse — to inject several malicious files onto the PC. Microsoft said Wednesday afternoon, however, that its research came to a different conclusion. "Microsoft's initial investigation shows that this is not a new vulnerability but a duplicate of an already known issue" first reported in mid-December, a company spokesperson said in an e-mail.

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=2FQTVPUVKXX0MQSNDLRCKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=197002350>

33. *January 31, CNET News* — **Dutch botnet hackers sentenced to time served.** A Dutch court on Tuesday, January 30, sentenced two hackers to prison for breaking into millions of computers worldwide and using the hijacked systems in online crimes. The lead perpetrator was sentenced to two years in prison and the accomplice to 18 months, the Dutch public prosecution service said in a statement. Part of each sentence is probationary. In both cases the sentences equal the time the two young men have already served, meaning they don't have to spend any more time in prison. In addition to the prison sentences, the court ordered the main hacker to pay an \$11,700 fine, while the second hacker was ordered to pay \$5,200. The court found the

pair responsible for commandeering millions of computers last year with a Trojan horse called Toxbot. They used the hijacked systems in a network, popularly called a botnet, to steal credit card numbers and other personal data, and to blackmail online businesses by threatening to take down their Websites.

Source: [http://news.com.com/Dutch+botnet+hackers+sentenced+to+time+severed/2100-7348\\_3-6155251.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/Dutch+botnet+hackers+sentenced+to+time+severed/2100-7348_3-6155251.html?tag=nefd.top)

## Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
<b>Top 10 Target Ports</b>	The top 10 Target Ports are temporarily unavailable. We apologize for the inconvenience. Source: <a href="http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html">http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html</a> ; Internet Storm Center
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="http://www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a> .	
Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it-isac.org/">https://www.it-isac.org/</a> .	

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

Nothing to report.

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## General Sector

### 34. *February 01, Washington Post* — **Clocks' early spring forward may bring about a few falls.**

In August 2005, Congress lengthened daylight saving time by four weeks in the name of energy efficiency. The change takes effect this year — on March 11 — and it has sent thousands of technicians scrambling to make sure countless automated systems switch their clocks at the right moment. Large swaths of private and corporate America seem oblivious to the approaching change, according to analysts and technicians who track Websites and swap information with colleagues nationwide. Even in the banking industry, where ATMs time-stamp every customer transaction, awareness of the March 11 change is limited. For many widely used devices such as cell phones and PCs, automatic updates should be easy. Advocates for the change say the nation could save about 100,000 barrels of oil a day by extending daylight saving time, pushing more human activity into sunlight hours and reducing the use of light bulbs. So lawmakers agreed to start daylight saving time three weeks earlier — on the second Sunday in March — and end it a week later, on the first Sunday in November.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/31/AR2007013102318.html>

### 35. *February 01, CNN* — **Two held after ad campaign triggers Boston bomb scare.** Authorities have arrested two men in connection with electronic light boards depicting a middle-finger-waving moon man that triggered repeated bomb scares around Boston on

Wednesday, January 31, and prompted the closure of bridges and a stretch of the Charles River. Meanwhile, police and prosecutors vented their anger at Turner Broadcasting Inc., which said the battery-operated light boards were aimed at promoting the late-night Adult Swim cartoon "Aqua Teen Hunger Force." But the discovery of nine of the light boards around Boston and its suburbs sent bomb squads scrambling throughout the day, snarling traffic and mass transit in one of the largest U.S. cities. "It had a very sinister appearance," Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley told reporters. "It had a battery behind it, and wires." Boston officials condemned Turner for not taking proper steps to end the bomb scares earlier and for not issuing an adequate apology to the city. Turner Broadcasting said in written statements the devices had been placed around Boston and nine other cities in recent weeks as part of a guerrilla marketing campaign to promote the show. The hoax charge is a felony.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/01/31/boston.bomb scare/index.html>

**36. February 01, Associated Press — More immigration officers watching jails.** U.S. jails and prisons have become strategic chokepoints in the search for illegal immigrants. More federal agents are more closely watching local jails for potentially tens of thousands of immigrants subject to deportation. Federal officials also are enlisting local authorities to do background checks on people under arrest. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials say more jail checks are crucial to preventing serious crimes by illegal immigrants. In December, for example, an illegal immigrant with a history of arrests for assaults and drug offenses shot two Long Beach, CA, police officers before he was killed in a gun battle. "This isn't really an immigration issue. It's a public safety issue," ICE spokesperson Virginia Kice said. About half of the nearly 190,000 illegal immigrants deported last year had criminal records, U.S. authorities said.

Source: <http://www.wkrn.com/nashville/news/ap-more-immigration-officers-watching-jails/75049.htm>

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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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