



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 18 January 2008

Current Nationwide



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- The Associated Press reported that seven guards have been caught sleeping at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in Oak Ridge since 2000. Three were fired and the rest disciplined, said a spokesman for the National Nuclear Security Administration, a Department of Energy unit that oversees the Y-12 complex. (See items [6](#))
- According to Reuters, a World Health Organization report states that the H5N1 bird flu virus may sometimes stick to surfaces or get kicked up in fertilizer dust to infect people. After reviewing all known cases of human infection, the WHO found that 25 percent were unexplained. Most are passed directly from bird to people, but, very rarely, one person can infect another. (See item [23](#))

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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. *January 17, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **State seeks \$87.5 million refund for consumers.** Maryland utility regulators filed a complaint yesterday claiming that the federal government allowed power companies to overcharge electricity customers by \$87.5 million two years ago and demanding that the money be refunded. State regulators say the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission let power companies raise prices during peak-demand periods in 2006. A lack of competition in Maryland's deregulated

electricity market allowed prices to remain high, and 17 generation plants in the state reaped excess profits in the wholesale power market, the state's 225-page complaint says. The excess charges came to \$87.5 million, according to an analysis performed for the state Public Service Commission by an independent monitor. The complaint filed with federal regulators is part of a broad attempt by the commission to address record increases that occurred after caps came off electricity rates last year. The competition that lawmakers predicted has not materialized in the deregulated market, and wholesale power generators can charge high prices during high-demand periods.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/16/AR2008011603719.html>

2. *January 17, Bloomberg* – (International) **Iranian oil minister says no need for OPEC to raise oil output.** The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries should not respond to a request by the U.S. President to raise output at its next meeting as oil markets remain adequately supplied, the Iranian oil minister said. OPEC's second largest oil producer sees no need for the exporting group to pump more, especially after the recent crude price decline. This comes after President Bush urged OPEC to consider pumping more oil in an effort to lower near-record crude prices.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=apqs0SJiA3cE&refer=energy>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *January 16, Associated Press* – (California) **Chemical-related illnesses cost state.** Toxic chemicals sicken and kill thousands of people in California each year and cost the state an estimated \$2.6 billion in medical expenses and lost wages, according to a report set to be released today. The study by University of California researchers details the economic, environmental, and public health effects of industrial chemicals and calls for state policies to phase out dangerous substances and promote safer alternatives. The report, "Green Chemistry: Cornerstone to a Sustainable California," was commissioned by the California Environmental Protection Agency and endorsed by 127 researchers at UC campuses and national laboratories in California. The researchers are scheduled to brief state lawmakers on their findings on Friday. The researchers estimate that in 2004, more than 200,000 California workers suffered from chronic diseases linked to workplace exposure to industrial chemicals. Another 4,400 people died of those diseases, which include cancer, emphysema, and Parkinson's disease.

Source: http://www.dailybreeze.com/ci_7993494

4. *January 16, NBC 11 San Jose* – (California) **SF hazmat team called in after mysterious liquid spill.** The area around a San Francisco Department of Public Works operation yard is closed to public access after a 55-gallon drum spilling mysterious liquid was reported Wednesday morning in the Potrero Hill neighborhood, according to a fire department spokeswoman. The fire department was called at around 11 a.m. and found the drum spilling various paint chemicals. There were no reported injuries other

than a few minor complaints of headaches from those in the area. Just to be safe, a hazardous materials unit was brought in, in addition to a rescue squad and officials with the Department of Public Health, the spokeswoman said. A dry-cleaning business next door was evacuated and a shelter-in-place order was called while officials determined the drum did not contain dry-cleaning chemicals.

Source: <http://www.nbc11.com/newsarchive/15067139/detail.html>

5. *January 16, Indianapolis Star* – (Indiana) **State gives update on chemical spill.** The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has updated the amount of chemicals spilled during a Far-Westside train derailment January 6. About 30,000 gallons of soybean oil, 22,000 gallons of petroleum lubricating oil, 19,000 gallons of corn syrup, 7,000 to 10,000 gallons of fertilizer, and 650 gallons of diesel fuel spilled during the crash, said an IDEM spokesman. Much of the liquid has been cleaned up, while the rest will be removed as the remaining wrecked train cars are hauled off, the spokesman said. Meanwhile, Marion County Health Department officials are awaiting results of tests conducted on wells near the crash site. Fourteen wells are being tested and results are due in about two weeks.

Source:

<http://www.indystar.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080116/LOCAL/80116042>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *January 17, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Feds: 7 napping guards at weapons plant since 2000.** Seven guards have been caught sleeping at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in Oak Ridge since 2000, a federal spokesman said Wednesday. Three were fired and the rest disciplined, said a spokesman for the National Nuclear Security Administration, a Department of Energy unit that oversees the Y-12 complex. The administration reported Monday only two guards had fallen asleep at their posts in four years at the high-security plant, about 20 miles west of Knoxville, Tennessee. But the spokesman said Wednesday that did not cover the full extent of Wackenhut Services Inc.'s Oak Ridge security contract, which began in January 2000. Six cases of guard-napping involving seven officers were found during the seven-year period. Y-12, a potential terrorist target containing the key ingredients for a "dirty bomb," makes uranium parts for every warhead in the U.S. nuclear arsenal. It also dismantles old weapons and is the nation's primary storehouse for bomb-grade uranium.

Source: <http://www.wsmv.com/news/15067784/detail.html>

7. *January 17, Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Regulators approve power boost for Millstone nuclear plant.** Federal regulators have approved a plan to boost power at the Unit 3 reactor at the Millstone nuclear power complex in Waterford, Connecticut. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission says that a plan to boost the power is safe. The commission concludes that Dominion's proposed amendment to its license, which would enable an increase in the electric output of the reactor, will not create any "significant hazards." The increased demand for electricity regionally has prompted Dominion to seek the power boost. The increase would result in production of an extra

80 megawatts of power over and above the 1,165 megawatts Unit 3 is producing today. Combined, Units 2 and 3 currently produce 2,040 megawatts of electricity, enough to power more than 500,000 homes.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/connecticut/articles/2008/01/17/regulators_approve_power_boost_for_millstone_nuclear_plant/

8. *January 17, Manitowoc Herald Times Reporter* – (Wisconsin) **Nuclear plant unit shut down.** Point Beach Nuclear Plant Unit 1 was removed from service Wednesday at 7:24 p.m. to repair one of the plant's electrical transformers, according to a news release issued by company officials Thursday morning. In accordance with the plant's procedures, site management directed the plant be shut down to ensure the safe and efficient repair of the equipment, according to FPL Energy spokeswoman. The news release indicates the plant has exited the "Unusual Event" declaration reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Tuesday. Point Beach operators had declared the event when they first determined the electrical transformer was not functioning properly. This kind of event is the lowest emergency action level in the NRC-required emergency response plan for nuclear reactors, according to the release.

Source:

<http://www.htrnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080117/MAN0101/80117014>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *January 17, Roanoke Times* – (National) **ITT awarded \$174.7 million defense contract.** War and the threat of terrorism can be a boon for defense contractors such as ITT Corp. The global company announced Wednesday that its ITT Night Vision business in Roanoke County has been awarded a \$174.7 million order for night vision monoculars and related gear. The latest order, from a U.S. Army acquisition center, represents part of a previously announced Omnibus VII contract awarded in September 2005 by the Army; a contract with a total potential value of nearly \$1.4 billion. The AN/PVS-14 night vision monocular provides soldiers and security forces enhanced vision in low-light conditions. The order's companion requisition for spare image intensifying tubes is intended to help the Army refurbish battle-worn goggles.
Source: <http://www.roanoke.com/business/wb/147338>
10. *January 15, Register* – (National) **Military industrial complex aims to revamp email.** A consortium of British and U.S. military agencies and defense and aerospace firms has agreed a new standard for secure email. Security experts are watching the developments closely, but are unsure how much of the specification will make it into public use or commercial email security products. The secure email specification from the Transglobal Secure Collaboration Program (TSCP) aims to address email's inherent identity and data transmission security flaws. The specification covers a method for authenticating users that creates a Public Key Infrastructure system that could act as the backbone for other forms of electronic collaboration. The requirements were defined and endorsed by the members of the TSCP: the U.S. Department of Defense, U.K.

Ministry of Defence, BAE Systems, Boeing, EADS, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and Rolls-Royce. The U.S. Defense Department intends to use the specification to protect “controlled but unclassified information”.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/01/15/secure_email_spec/

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *January 17, Associated Press* – (National) **Privacy concerns rise.** Privacy concerns stemming from online shopping rose in 2007, a new study finds, as the loss or theft of credit card information and other personal data soared to unprecedented levels. Sixty-one percent of adult Americans said they were very or extremely concerned about the privacy of personal information when buying online, an increase from 47 percent in 2006. People who do not shop online tend to be more worried, as are newer Internet users, regardless of whether they buy things on the Internet, according to the survey from the University of Southern California’s Center for the Digital Future. The Identity Theft Resource Center listed more than 125 million records reported compromised in the United States last year. That is a sixfold increase from the nearly 20 million records reported in 2006. As of 2007, two-thirds of adult Internet users shop online, compared with just half a year earlier. The study, released Thursday, comes as privacy and security groups report that an increasing number of personal records are being compromised because of data breaches at online retailers, banks, government agencies, and corporations. The study of 2,021 Americans was conducted February 28 to August 6, with participants selected randomly by telephone.

Source:

http://www.mercurynews.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print_article.jsp?articleId=7995443&siteId=36

12. *January 16, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **UW-Madison notifies 200 employees of privacy leak.** University of Wisconsin-Madison officials have advised more than 200 employees that their personal information was inadvertently released on the Internet. The information included e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and Social Security-based campus ID numbers of faculty and staff who made purchases from a campus computer shop. It had been accessible on a campus Internet site for at least a year. A spokesman said the university learned of the potential exposure after a staffer found information about his own purchase during a routine online search. He said there is no indication the information was misused. The revelation is the third privacy breach disclosed by state government agencies this month.

Source: <http://www.channel3000.com/news/15065729/detail.html>

13. *January 16, Associated Press* – (National) **SEC sues Russian trader in options scam.** Federal regulators filed a lawsuit Wednesday against a Russian citizen who allegedly tampered with online brokerage accounts to engineer profitable trades. The man used stolen user names and passwords for seven online brokerage accounts to place orders that offset his own trading in iShares Lehman Aggregate Bond Fund options, the Securities and Exchange Commission said. It said online brokerage account holders at

E-Trade Securities, TD Ameritrade, and Scottrade did not know about the trading, which was done with funds in their accounts. The suspect ensured profits by placing his own orders to buy options contracts at artificially low prices and offsetting them with trades from the online brokerage accounts that he broke into, the SEC said. Then, he sold the options at artificially high prices, using buy orders from the online accounts he tampered with. The SEC estimates that he pulled in at least \$88,465, which he wired to a Latvian bank account, while online account holders, who would have lost upward of \$339,000, were made whole by the brokerage firms. Online brokerage account intrusions are not new, but earlier incidents involved so-called “pump and dump” schemes in which the intruder uses others’ accounts to sell shares at inflated prices. In this case, the trader was both a buyer and a seller, something that U.S. regulators said they have not seen previously.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D8U78KL80.htm>

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Transportation Sector

14. *January 17, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **D.C. Airport pass speeds travelers clear to the gate.** Washington area travelers will soon be able to speed more quickly through airport security if they are willing to pay a fee, provide personal information to the government, and allow their fingerprints and eyes to be scanned at checkpoints. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, which operates Reagan National and Dulles International airports, awarded a contract yesterday to a company that operates the federal government’s security program, which is known as Registered Traveler. The company operates registered traveler programs at 11 airports nationwide. Company officials said that 2,000 people in the Washington area have already signed up to join the program called Clear. Participation costs \$128 a year, including a fee for a government background check. To join Registered Traveler, a passenger must sign up at Clear’s Web site (<http://www.flyclear.com>) and fill out personal information. Within a few days, travelers then visit a Clear center so the company can check identification and take an image of their fingerprints and eyes, the company said. The information is then sent to the TSA for a background check. Once enrolled in the program, passengers show up at the Clear lanes at the airport and have their fingerprints or eyes scanned to verify identities. They can generally expect much shorter security lines than other passengers, but like everyone else going through a checkpoint, they must put their bags through X-ray machines, take off their shoes, and remove their laptop computers from their luggage.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/01/16/AR2008011603588.html?hpid=sec-business>

15. *January 16, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Airport cleared, locked down over grenade scare.** A northwest Kansas regional airport was evacuated and locked down for three hours because an inactive hand grenade was found in a traveler’s carry-on bag. The grenade, which had been emptied of explosive and disarmed so it could be used for decoration or display, was found Tuesday by security screeners at Hays Regional Airport. “They moved the bag from the terminal and, upon further inspection,

determined what looked like a grenade was a grenade, but it was inert,” said the assistant police chief. Airport officials said they believe the traveler, who was later allowed to board a flight, had put the grenade in the bag by accident.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/22687529/>

16. *January 16, Minnesota Public Radio* – (Minnesota) **Crews continue to work on freeing ship stuck in Duluth-Superior Harbor.** Crews are pumping water out of the ship that sprung a leak Monday in the Duluth-Superior harbor. The Walter J. McCarthy’s engine room flooded after the ship struck an unidentified object under water while docking in Superior. The ship’s stern sank to the bottom next to the dock. The McCarthy is one of the big ships - the thousand foot carriers that haul coal and taconite across the Great Lakes. The McCarthy’s stern has been sitting on the bottom in about 20 feet of water since Monday. A Duluth Seaway Port Authority official said the stern has settled to the bottom, but the front still floats. The McCarthy carries thousands of gallons of water ballast. The official said one can get the ship off the bottom by emptying the water out of its ballast tanks which would fill with air.

Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/01/16/ship/>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *January 16, WRAL 5 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Thyme sends Durham Police into lockdown.** The Durham Police Department was locked down briefly Wednesday afternoon when an envelope containing a suspicious white powder was delivered to someone in the department, authorities said. The fire department’s hazmat team and the police department’s Biological Chemical Emergency Response Team suited up in protective gear and set up a decontamination tent to investigate the incident. The building was reopened about 90 minutes later when authorities determined the suspicious material was thyme seeds.

Source: http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/2312620/

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *January 17, Tallahassee Democrat* – (Florida) **State issues warning about E. coli in cheese.** Retailers and consumers are urged to return or destroy Santa Rosa Cheese Naturally Aged White Cheese after the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services reported Wednesday that traces of E. coli were found in three samples. In a press release, the department reported the strand of E. coli is not the potent O157:H7 strain. No illnesses have been attributed to the contaminated cheese. The chief of the department’s Bureau of Food and Meat Inspection said three samples contained 760 particles, 2,100 particles, and more than 49,000 particles of the bacteria per gram. He said Tallahassee area grocers may not carry Santa Rosa Cheese because it is primarily sold in markets with larger Hispanic communities.

Source:

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Water Sector

19. *January 17, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Tap-water ban hits parts of P.V., Scottsdale.** Residents in Paradise Valley and Scottsdale were told Wednesday not to drink their tap water, after a water-treatment plant for Arizona American Water malfunctioned Tuesday, possibly sending elevated levels of TCE, or trichloroethylene, into the water supply, said a company spokesman. TCE is a colorless liquid solvent and suspected carcinogen used primarily to remove oil and grease from metal parts. The company began notifying its 4,750 households Wednesday afternoon through an automated phone system. A similar incident happened in November, when Arizona American was notified that samples from a treatment facility in Scottsdale, collected October 15, showed levels of TCE at 9.2 parts per billion, nearly twice the allowable federal limit. Excessive amount of TCE did not reach customers' taps, the company said.
Source:
<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0116water0117ON.html>
20. *January 16, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **Arsenic levels exceed standards at YPG; officials say it poses no problem.** Arsenic levels have exceeded standards in three out of five water wells used by Yuma Proving Ground, but officials say the problem is a familiar one that is under control and presents no danger. A YPG spokesman stressed that the Environmental Protection Agency and state of Arizona recently raised their standards for arsenic, making the levels at YPG seemingly register a bit higher. Arsenic naturally appears in the earth's crust and gets into water supplies when different minerals and ores are dissolved, according to a YPG press statement. Arsenic is found in both the bedrock and soil in Yuma County. Employees at YPG have traditionally avoided drinking water from the tap, drinking bottled water instead. The base's housing areas, however, have been equipped with the reverse osmosis systems needed to remove arsenic. YPG plans to make a proposal to the Army that YPG be fitted with a complete water treatment system, one that would resolve the arsenic issue.
Source:
http://www.yumasun.com/news/arsenic_38969_article_news.html/ypg_water.html
21. *January 16, Water Technology Online* – (National) **Senate bill would ease up on small systems.** Three U.S. senators are backing a new bill that would relax some enforcement measures of the Safe Drinking Water Act now applied to small public water systems, and give the small systems more treatment options and financing to comply with water quality standards. A key provision of the bill, S. 2509, would prohibit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from enforcing small-system compliance with a federal drinking water standard unless the small system received enough federal funds to pay for the federal share of the upgrade. The bill would set aside \$15 million a year nationally for fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to accomplish this. The bill's principal

sponsor is Senator James Inhofe; it is co-sponsored by Senators Ben Nelson and Chuck Hagel. The bill has been referred to the Senate's Committee on Environment and Public Works, of which Inhofe is ranking member and Senator Barbara Boxer is chairman.

Source: http://watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=68998

22. *January 16, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (National) **EPA reports on clean water infrastructure needs.** A new report from the Environmental Protection Agency estimates \$202.5 billion is the nationwide capital investment needed to control wastewater pollution for up to a 20-year period. Delivered to Congress this week, the 2004 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey summarizes the results of the agency's 14th national survey on the needs of publicly owned wastewater treatment works. The estimate includes \$134.4 billion for wastewater treatment and collection systems, \$54.8 billion for combined sewer overflow corrections, and \$9.0 billion for stormwater management. "Water infrastructure is a lifeline for health and prosperity in communities across America," said the assistant administrator for water. "EPA is working with our partners to promote sustainable solutions and help utilities and households save money, water and energy." Communities across the country face challenges in sustaining their water infrastructure. EPA is working with states, tribes, utilities, and other partners to reduce the demand on infrastructure through improved asset management, improved technology, water efficiency, and watershed-based decision making, and is working with Congress to enact the Administration's Water Enterprise Bond proposal. The needs in this survey represent a \$16.1 billion (8.6 percent) increase (in constant 2004 dollars) over the 2000 report. The increase in overall national needs is due to a combination of population growth, more protective water quality standards, and aging infrastructure. Source: <http://www.wateronline.com/content/news/article.asp?DocID=%7B18684329-DA7A-480D-B4D9-44A7D7566472%7D&Bucket=Current+Headlines&VNETCOOKIE=NO>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

23. *January 17, Reuters* – (International) **Bird flu may be spread indirectly, WHO says.** The H5N1 bird flu virus may sometimes stick to surfaces or get kicked up in fertilizer dust to infect people, according to a World Health Organization report published on Wednesday. The WHO team reviewed all known human cases of avian influenza, which has infected 350 people in 14 countries and killed 217 of them since 2003, and found that 25 percent of cases have no explanation. Most are passed directly from bird to people, they noted in their report, published in the New England Journal of Medicine. Very rarely one person can infect another -- always close relatives via intimate physical contact. It could be that small particles of virus-contaminated fluid stuck to surfaces, they said, or fertilizer made from infected bird feces somehow carried the virus into people's noses or mouths. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSN1616209020080117?sp=true>
24. *January 17, Morning Call* – (National) **Lead paint hazard forces recall of children's lamp.** About 60,000 Tinker Bell lamps have been recalled because the surface paint on

the lamps contains high levels of lead, which is toxic if ingested by children. The lamp, which is made in Hong Kong by Kash N' Gold Ltd., has a Tinker Bell figure attached to the lamp and music plays when the light switch or demo button is pressed. The lamps were sold at electronic and appliance stores nationwide from January through October 2007.

Source: http://www.mcall.com/business/local/all-recalls_thur.6230444jan17,0,203620.story

25. *January 17, Associated Press* – (Indiana; Minnesota) **Feds probe slaughterhouse illness link.** Federal health officials are investigating if there is a link between illnesses reported by several workers at a pig slaughterhouse in Indiana and those seen recently in workers at a Minnesota pork plant. All the employees work in areas where pigs' heads have been processed using a technique in which compressed air is shot into their skulls until their brains spill out, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spokeswoman said. After the Minnesota slaughterhouse illness was reported, the CDC looked into slaughtering practices in 25 large pork processing plants in 13 states and found only two other plants — one in Indiana, the other in Nebraska — that used compressed air to remove pigs' brains. Minnesota health officials said the pork plants in all three states have voluntarily stopped the practice. The Indiana workers' symptoms included changes in sensation and weakness in their limbs. Those symptoms are similar to a mysterious cluster of neurological symptoms reported last month among 12 workers at a pork slaughterhouse in Austin, Minnesota.

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hqaebpM28dOdHO2Fop0xo06mxqQD8U7GQR81>

26. *January 17, Associated Press* – (National) **Over the counter cold medicine too risky for young children, FDA declares.** While the Food and Drug Administration still has not decided if over the counter cold and cough medicines are appropriate for older children to continue using, it has issued an advisory that parents should not give them to infants or toddlers "because serious and potentially life-threatening side effects can occur." Drug companies last October quit selling dozens of versions targeted specifically to babies and toddlers. That same month, the FDA's own scientific advisers voted that the drugs do not even work in small children and should not be used by anyone under age six. Thursday's advisory marks the government's first ruling on the issue: Do not give the drugs to children under two. It comes now because the FDA is worried that parents have not gotten that message, despite all the publicity last fall.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,323391,00.html>

27. *January 16, Houston Chronicle* – (National) **CDC to make call on mystery skin disease.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Wednesday launched a study into Morgellons, an unexplained skin disorder that causes a crawling sensation and lesions that will not heal. A principal investigator for the CDC would not go so far as to acknowledge that the illness is real, but said the agency has received enough inquiries about it during the past year that it deserves to be considered and hopefully explained. Many families in Houston, Texas, are self-diagnosed with the condition, making the area a Morgellons hot spot, according to the Morgellons Research

Foundation, a nonprofit group that has become the primary source of information about the disorder. People who report suffering from the condition identify a range of symptoms including crawling, biting and stinging sensations and so-called fibers or black specks that protrude from skin lesions. Some also suffer from fatigue, mental confusion, and joint pain. There is skepticism in the medical community about whether the illness actually exists. Many doctors believe patients that show those symptoms suffer from delusional parasitosis, a psychotic illness that causes the patient to believe they are infected with parasites. More than 11,000 families have contacted the foundation indicating they believe they have the illness. About 800 of those are from Texas, with most clustered around Houston, San Antonio, and Dallas.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/chronicle/5461761.html>

Government Facilities Sector

28. *January 16, Arizona Daily Star* – (Arizona) **SUV driver rams into gate outside Davis-Monthan.** The driver of a dark sport utility vehicle smashed into a gate outside Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Monday night, an official said. The SUV sustained front-end damage and the driver fled after ramming into the fence about 8:30 p.m. said a base spokesman. The gate was damaged and will have to be replaced, but the SUV was not able to smash through it. “I don’t think it was their intention to enter” the base, he said. The Tucson Police Department is assisting base officials with the investigation.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/01/16/MN4NUFPGF.DTL>

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Emergency Services Sector

29. *January 17, Federal Emergency Management Agency* – (National) **Seismic scientists and emergency managers meet in Seattle.** In a statement released today, FEMA announced that hundreds of geoscientists, engineers, insurance regulators, building officials, and emergency managers will converge in Seattle to take part in the National Earthquake Conference, 22-26 April 2008. The conference is hosted by the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup (CREW), Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC), Central United States Earthquake Consortium, Northeast States Emergency Consortium, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, and the Emergency Preparedness for Industry and Commerce Council of Canada. Sponsors include FEMA, USGS, NSF, and NIST. The five-day conference links geoscientists and engineers, insurance regulators and emergency managers, building code developers and private citizens with seismic policy makers. According to WSSPC’s executive director, the conference reflects a commitment to changing the way America deals with earthquakes by stressing pre-disaster planning and aggressive mitigation measures. This year’s National Earthquake Conference will focus on building dialogue among emergency managers, earthquake researchers, government officials, and business leaders to mitigate losses from earthquakes and increase social and economic resiliency, she said. This

year's content will focus on partnerships, risk analysis, pooled resources, and aggressive pre-disaster mitigation, said a FEMA representative. For registration information visit: www.earthquakeconference.org/registration.html.

Source: http://media-newswire.com/release_1059573.html

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Information Technology

30. *January 17, Computer Weekly* – (International) **Ikea plugs website security breach.**

Ikea has plugged a major hole in its website security that allowed hackers and phishers to use the “contact Ikea” function on the site to access the retail giant’s email system. The security flaw gave hackers and phishers full access to the resources of its email servers, allowing them to send bulk outbound mail via Ikea’s email servers. The chief technology officer of the IT security company Tier-3, said, “Ikea’s problems were caused because the contact template on the firm’s home page was inadequately secured, allowing hackers with criminal intentions to insert alternative e-mail addresses in a contact form. This basically allowed anyone with a little technical knowledge to generate millions of phishing and/or spam messages from Ikea’s mail servers using a simple script. The potential damage to the company’s reputation and possibility of email blacklisting could be significant.”

Source: <http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2008/01/17/228976/ikea-plugs-website-security-breach.htm>

31. *January 16, Dark Reading* – (National) **Malware quietly reaching ‘epidemic’ levels.**

In separate studies released yesterday, two research firms now say that malware increased between 500 percent and 1,000 percent in 2007, and it shows no signs of slowing down. “The number of new strains of malware that appeared in 2007 increased tenfold with respect to the previous year,” said PandaLabs, Panda Security’s research arm, in a report issued yesterday. “Over the last year, PandaLabs has received an average of more than 3,000 new strains of malware every day. This represents a malware epidemic which -- although silent, with little media coverage and no widespread alerts -- is nevertheless dangerous.” The results indicate that signature-based defenses for malware are no longer effective, the research firm said. Some 72 percent of networks with more than 100 workstations -- and 23 percent of home users -- are currently infected with malware, despite having operative antivirus or other signature-based tools in place, PandaLabs said. Experts at AV-Test, an independent testing organization, also reported skyrocketing incidence of malware yesterday. After a detailed count, the organization said it identified nearly 5.5 million different malware files in 2007 -- more than five times as many as in 2006. And the trend is accelerating: The group already has identified more than 118,000 different malware files in the first two weeks of January. The results drove AV-Test to concur with PandaLabs’s assessment. “The figures clearly demonstrate that the signature-based approach of current anti-virus software is no longer appropriate,” the report said.

Source: http://www.darkreading.com/document.asp?doc_id=143424

32. *January 16, vnunet.com* – (National) **FBI warns of malicious email scam.** The FBI has

issued a warning to the public following a deluge of spam emails purporting to be from the agency. The bogus messages often include pictures of the FBI's director, along with the organization's official seal, letterhead and banner. "The FBI does not send out emails soliciting personal information from citizens," said the agency. "The social engineering technique of using the FBI's name is designed to intimidate and convince the recipient that the email is legitimate. The emails are typically a notification of a 'lottery win' or long-lost relative leaving an 'inheritance.' Other emails offer website monitoring containing malicious attachments and online auction scams. The warning comes just six months after the FBI issued a similar alert about spammers using trusted institutions to improve returns.

Source: www.vnunet.com/2207367

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: 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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Communications Sector

33. *January 16, NetworkWorld.com* – (National) **Cisco warns of Unified Communications Manager heap overflow flaw.** Cisco Wednesday released its first new security alert of the year: a warning that its Cisco Unified Communications Manager -- formerly CallManager -- contains a heap overflow vulnerability in the Certificate Trust List that could allow a hacker to cause a denial-of-service attack or execute arbitrary code. Cisco has made available a free software fix for affected customers, and a workaround is available in its security advisory. The products that are vulnerable are: Cisco Unified CallManager 4.0, Cisco Unified CallManager 4.1 Versions prior to 4.1(3)SR5c, Cisco Unified Communications Manager 4.2 Versions prior to 4.2(3) SR3, and Cisco Unified Communications Manager 4.3 Versions prior to 4.3(1) SR1. Cisco says it is not aware of any public announcements or malicious use of the vulnerability, which was reported to Cisco from TippingPoint.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/011608-cisco-unified-communications-flaw.html>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report.

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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Dams Sector

34. *January 17, Idaho Press-Tribune* – (Idaho) **Workers shore up Lake Lowell dam deficiency.** In Idaho, work continues at Lake Lowell's Upper Deer Flat Dam to fix a deficiency detected by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation officials. Officials raised both safety and structural concerns after instrumentation ratings indicated water could have been flowing through the dam at the Caldwell outlet. An emergency was declared on May 13, 2005, and an emergency berm was placed around the Caldwell Canal outlet works intake tower as a temporary measure. "It's unusual in that we declared an emergency," said the safety dams programs manager. "We found some things that were alarming. We found voids under the Caldwell Canal. Material had been washed out. It had been losing support underneath the outlet works conduit. We found soft foundation materials underneath the conduit near the outlet works tower...It was alarming that those indications were there...It was more than normal wear and tear. New cracks were appearing in the conduit. We had to do something right away, but it does take awhile, a long time to get to get investigations, designs, approval lined up." Source: <http://www.idahopress.com/news/?id=3167>
35. *January 16, Press Argus-Courier* – (Arkansas) **Council seeks certification of river levee.** Members of the Van Buren City Council agreed Monday night to take a proactive approach in seeking U.S. Army Corps of Engineers certification of the Arkansas River levee. The mayor said Van Buren and Crawford County were notified in 2006 that the Federal Emergency Management Agency would require levee certification. If the levees built in the 1940s are not certified, the mayor said they would not be included in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's flood risk maps as a flood control measure. This would place the industrial park and much of historic downtown in the flood plain. Source: <http://www.pressargus.com/articles/2008/01/16/news/news02.txt>
36. *January 16, Vernon Broadcaster* – (Wisconsin) **Federal plan for dam raises red flags for DNR.** A watershed management engineer with the Department of Natural Resources told the Vernon County Land and Water Conservation Committee he has reviewed the latest version of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plan to repair the Jersey Valley dam and it would not meet DNR criteria as a safe repair of the dam. The county's land and water department had expressed its concerns in the last couple of months to NRCS engineers that the NRCS report and proposed plan to fix the dam had not taken into account information gathered by a private consultant that showed the dam was leaking all the way across the structure and not just on the left hillside. The NRCS proposal is to make the dam a low-hazard dam by reducing the height of the dam by 20 feet and reducing the recreational pool by about half. The NRCS said its plan would remove Avalanche and Bloomingdale from the "breach route" if the dam would fail, but

reduces the flood protection for those communities, which would now be subject to more periodic flooding. The NRCS option also calls for a less drastic repair to the dam by extending a “clay blanket” up the east shoreline to alleviate leaking and doing surface grouting. This plan was approved by the county board earlier this year.

Source: <http://www.vernonbroadcaster.com/articles/2008/01/16/news/00lead.txt>

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

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