



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 January 2008

Current Nationwide



[For info click here](#)

- Purdue University News reports that researchers at the university are working with the state of Indiana to develop a system that would use a network of sensor-equipped cell phones to detect radiation sources, including possible radiological “dirty bombs” and nuclear weapons. By adding sensitive, but small radiation sensors to cell phones, which already contain GPS locators, researchers say they could enable a network of phones to function as a tracking system. (See items [7](#))
- According to Reuters, a new GAO report states that vaccines and drugs will not be enough to slow or prevent a pandemic of influenza, which global health experts almost universally agree is overdue. Supplies of antiviral drugs are low and a vaccine would have to be formulated to match the precise strain causing the pandemic. (See item [25](#))

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

**Production Industries:** [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

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

**Federal and State:** [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **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 23, Associated Press* – (National) **US Energy Sec: Oil affecting economy.** High oil prices are starting to affect the U.S. economy, the Energy secretary said Wednesday. “The economy has been able to withstand it until now,” he said. “I believe the 100 dollar price of oil is starting to have an impact,” he told reporters, while visiting Cairo. Oil has retreated from a record high of above \$100 barrel earlier this month and is

now trading at around \$88 a barrel on concerns that a slowing U.S. economy would reduce energy demand.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/egypt\\_us\\_oil.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/egypt_us_oil.html?.v=1)

2. *January 22, KOTA 3 Rapid City* – (South Dakota) **Fire and explosion at fuel terminal on I-90.** An explosion occurred at the Rocky Mountain Pipeline terminal located on I-90 in Rapid City, South Dakota. Fire crews had the fire under control before 3:00 p.m. and were foaming the scene to prevent any flammable gas and diesel fumes from re-igniting. There were no injuries. A spokesman for the Rapid City fire department says they do not know what caused the explosion that ignited the fire. The fire was located at an interchange, which is a holding tank at the site where tanker trucks fill up with fuel. The terminal is where gasoline tankers fill up from the fuel pipeline, which carries petroleum products from a refinery in Wyoming to Rapid City.

Source: <http://www.kotatv.com/global/story.asp?s=7757713>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

3. *January 23, Beaumont Enterprise* – (Texas) **ExxonMobil plant will report flares.** ExxonMobil Corp.'s Beaumont chemical plant will report a flaring incident on Tuesday to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, a plant spokeswoman said. The problem began early Tuesday afternoon when a compressor tripped, she said. Because of it, the chemical plant, which produces ethylene and propylene, used in the manufacture of plastic consumer goods and packaging, had to be diverted to the flares, sending twin towers of flame skyward. The flares are necessary when equipment malfunctions and it is up to plants to report emissions if they calculate a reportable quantity, said the regional manager of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Industrial plants are given 24 hours to make an initial report and must follow up with a final report in 24 hours, according to the environmental commission's rules.

Source:

[http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19222306&BRD=2287&PAG=461&dept\\_id=512504&rft=6](http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=19222306&BRD=2287&PAG=461&dept_id=512504&rft=6)

4. *January 22, Point Pleasant Register* – (West Virginia) **Emergency planning group creates safety kits for schools.** To keep county residents safe during times of a chemical emergency, members of the Mason County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) gathered information and had a DVD produced, which provides tips about what to do if a shelter-in-place event occurs. To help keep students safe while they are inside their respective schools, LEPC members have been putting together shelter-in-place kits for each of the schools in the county, according to the secretary of the LEPC. Area businesses are donating supplies that include duct tape, plastic sheeting, towels, flashlights, and first-aid kits. The group also plans to purchase battery-operated emergency radios that have a hand-crank to place in the kits as well. Each kit will contain not only the radios, but plastic to cover doors, towels to place in crevices, duct tape, and flashlights, as well as things to keep the students entertained, such as games, coloring books, and snacks.

Source: <http://www.mydailyregister.com/articles/2008/01/22/news/news03.txt>

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

5. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **NRC to inspect Wisconsin nuclear plant after power failure.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has begun a special inspection at the Point Beach Nuclear Power Station. Commission officials said Tuesday they hope to learn why an electrical transformer failed last week at the facility on the Lake Michigan shore at Two Rivers, about 30 miles south of Green Bay. The failure left a safety system that is used in emergencies temporarily without power. The commission monitored the event for about 24 hours. The plant remained in stable condition, and public safety was never at risk, agency officials said.

Source:

<http://www.marshfieldnewsherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080123/MNH/80123036>

6. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Southeast) **Drought could force nuke-plant shutdowns.** Nuclear reactors across the Southeast could be forced to throttle back or temporarily shut down later this year because drought is drying up the rivers and lakes that supply power plants with the cooling water they need to operate. Utility officials say such shutdowns probably would not result in blackouts, but they could lead to higher electric bills for millions of Southerners, because the region's utilities could be forced to buy expensive replacement power from other energy companies. Already, there has been one brief, drought-related shutdown, at a reactor in Alabama over the summer. An Associated Press analysis of the nation's 104 nuclear reactors found that 24 are in areas experiencing the most severe levels of drought. All but two are built on the shores of lakes and rivers and rely on submerged intake pipes to draw billions of gallons of water for use in cooling and condensing steam after it has turned the plants' turbines. Over the next several months, the water could drop below the intake pipes altogether. Or the shallow water could become too hot under the sun to use as coolant. An estimated 3 million customers of the four commercial utilities with reactors in the drought zone get their power from nuclear energy.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/drought\\_nuclear\\_power.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/drought_nuclear_power.html?v=1)

7. *January 22, Purdue University News* – (National) **Cell phone sensors detect radiation to thwart nuclear terrorism.** Researchers at Purdue University are working with the state of Indiana to develop a system that would use a network of cell phones to detect and track radiation to help prevent terrorist attacks with radiological "dirty bombs" and nuclear weapons. Such a system could blanket the nation with millions of cell phones equipped with radiation sensors able to detect even light residues of radioactive material. Because cell phones already contain global positioning locators, the network of phones would serve as a tracking system, said a physics professor. Tiny solid-state radiation sensors are commercially available. The detection system would require additional circuitry and would not add significant bulk to portable electronic products, he said. The technology is unlike any other system, particularly because the software can work with a

variety of sensor types, he said. The researchers tested the system in November, demonstrating that it is capable of detecting a weak radiation source 15 feet from the sensors.

Source: <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2008a/080122FischbachNuclear.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *January 23, Associated Press* – (National) **General Dynamics wins \$17.6M Army deal.** The U.S. Army has awarded a unit of defense contractor General Dynamics Corp. a more than \$17.6 million contract for refurbished Abrams tanks. The deal for 204 Abrams Integrated Management vehicles with General Dynamics Lands Systems was awarded last week, according to a Defense Department notice posted late Tuesday. Work is expected to be completed by April 1.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/general\\_dynamics\\_army\\_contract.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/general_dynamics_army_contract.html?.v=1)
9. *January 23, Associated Press* – (National) **Boeing unit wins \$12.5M Navy contract.** The U.S. Navy has awarded a unit of the Boeing Co. a nearly \$12.5 million contract modification for aircraft equipment. McDonnell Douglas Corp. will provide mission equipment for various fighter jets, according to a Defense Department notice posted late Tuesday. Work will be performed in Clearwater, Florida, and St. Louis. It is expected to be completed in November 2009.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/boeing\\_navy\\_contract.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/boeing_navy_contract.html?.v=1)
10. *January 23, Associated Press* – (National) **Raytheon wins \$18.7M Navy deal.** The U.S. Navy has awarded military contractor Raytheon Co. a nearly \$18.7 million contract modification for engineering support on an anti-missile defense system. The Phalanx Close-In Weapon System is designed to automatically detect and destroy anti-ship missile threats “that have penetrated all other ships’ defenses,” according to a Defense Department notice posted late Tuesday. Work on the system, which is installed on about 187 U.S. Navy ships and is in use by 20 foreign navies, is expected to be completed by September.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/raytheon\\_navy\\_contract.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080123/raytheon_navy_contract.html?.v=1)
11. *January 22, Associated Press* – (National) **Textron division wins \$227.8M Army deal.** A division of Textron Inc. won a \$227.8 million contract to supply armored security vehicles for the Army, the Defense Department said late Tuesday. Textron Marine & Land Systems will build the vehicles in New Orleans and is expected to complete the work by June 30, 2009.  
Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080122/textron\\_army\\_contract.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080122/textron_army_contract.html?.v=1)
12. *January 22, St. Louis Business Journal* – (Missouri; National) **Boeing awarded \$14.9M Air Force contract.** The Boeing Co. was awarded a \$14.9 million U.S. Air Force contract for systems engineering and modeling services for the A-10 Wing Replacement program, Boeing said Tuesday. In June 2007, the Air Force awarded Boeing a contract worth up to \$2 billion for engineering services and the manufacturing of 242 wing sets

for the A-10 fleet. The A-10 Thunderbolt II, first introduced in 1976, is a twin-engine jet aircraft designed for close air support of ground forces and can be used against all ground targets, including tanks and other armored vehicles, according to a release. Boeing will perform the majority of the work in St. Louis with the remaining work done in Salt Lake City. The contract runs through September 2010.

Source:

[http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2008/01/21/daily18.html?ana=from\\_rss](http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2008/01/21/daily18.html?ana=from_rss)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

13. *January 22, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Second Life cracks down on virtual world banking.** Second Life on Tuesday began cracking down on banking in the popular online virtual world to protect residents from unstable financial institutions and outright scams. Second Life operator Linden Lab of San Francisco now bans members from offering interest or any direct return on cash investments unless they have real-world proof they are a legitimate financial institution. “We’re implementing this policy after reviewing resident complaints, banking activities, and the law, and we’re doing it to protect our residents and the integrity of our economy,” Second Life said in a website posting. Some residents complain about real-world regulations creeping into a virtual realm that claims as its motto “Your world -- Your imagination.”

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080122/tc\\_afp/lifestyleusitinternetfinancecompanylinden\\_080122211155;\\_ylt=Aj31V3uk0rwBomtBpiF3WOjYa7gF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080122/tc_afp/lifestyleusitinternetfinancecompanylinden_080122211155;_ylt=Aj31V3uk0rwBomtBpiF3WOjYa7gF)

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## **Transportation Sector**

14. *January 23, KGTV 10 San Diego* – (California) **Details emerge about close call on Lindbergh runway.** A Southwest Airlines flight taking off from Lindbergh Field had a close encounter on January 16 with a corporate jet that was apparently stuck at the end of the runway. According to a union representative for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association in San Diego, the Southwest flight was given permission to take off from Lindbergh Field, even though a Hawker 900S jet was stuck at the end of Runway 27. The representative said the Southwest pilot was told to abort takeoff, but the pilot said it was too late and had to take off. The Lindbergh tower was understaffed, the representative added. A Federal Aviation Administration official said the controller had cleared the Southwest plane to take off after the Hawker jet began a turn off the runway. He said the Hawker suddenly stopped due to a possible mechanical problem, and the tail of the aircraft was on the runway path. The issue is currently being reviewed in Washington, D.C.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/15115350/detail.html>

15. *January 22, WTTG 5 Washington, D.C.* – (District of Columbia) **Man passes through Reagan checkpoint with gun.** A man alerted Transportation Security Administration

officials early Sunday morning that he had gotten through the main security checkpoint at Ronald Reagan airport with a handgun. Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Police were called to the checkpoint where the man turned over his firearm and was given a summons for a misdemeanor for violating Virginia Code 18.2-287.01, which prohibits firearms in an airport terminal with exceptions for law enforcement and checked luggage.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=5557292&version=2&ocale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

16. *January 22, Associated Press* – (National) **Airports fingerprint foreign travelers.**

Since 2004, nonresidents traveling internationally have been required to allow airport personnel to scan their two index fingers at airports as part of a program called US-VISIT. But now, foreign travelers will be asked to scan all 10 fingers, an enhancement the U.S. Department of Homeland Security hopes will help officials more closely monitor watch lists of suspected terrorists, criminals, and immigration violators. Logan Airport in Boston became the third airport to use 10-finger scanners last week. Dulles Airport, serving Washington, D.C., began using the devices in November, while Atlanta's airport began using the new system this month. Seven other airports are scheduled to start using the new system by the end of February, including Chicago O'Hare, San Francisco, Houston, Miami, Detroit, Orlando, and New York's Kennedy. By the end of the year, the devices are expected to be up and running in all of the nation's international airports, as well as seaports and border points.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5iZPfffbz9AGuYIIOXvEp5HdDC2mwD8UB7TEO0>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *January 23, Santa Cruz Sentinel* – (California) **State mulls light brown apple moth**

**plans.** California's fight against the light brown apple moth will restart in late spring or early summer in Santa Cruz County, state agriculture officials said Tuesday. A method using twist-ties to apply a pheromone to plants, trees and fence posts is being considered, but Santa Cruz County is too heavily infested for that approach to be used there, said a spokesman for the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The Department of Food and Agriculture said Tuesday it is continuing to develop plans for its 2008 eradication program in nine counties along the coast in the Bay Area. While considering alternatives to supplement aerial spraying, that method appears, at least for now, to be the preferred method recommended by experts with the state agriculture



department and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That does not sit well with groups opposed to the aerial spraying that occurred in the region last fall. Those groups say the state did not thoroughly meet state law for reviewing the program under its environmental laws and that alternatives to spraying have been given short shrift. Nearly 10,400 light brown apple moths have been trapped in Santa Cruz County, where the agriculture industry was worth \$414 million in 2006. Less than 1,000 have been found in Monterey County, where spraying started first.

Source: <http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/story.php?storySection=Local&sid=65127>

18. *January 22, Brown County Democrat* – (Indiana) **USDA: Brown County designated disaster area.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture has granted the request of Indiana's governor for disaster designation for 74 Indiana counties due to extended drought conditions from June through October 2007. The designation was sought because the extreme dry weather caused damage to one or more crops. The disaster designation makes farmers eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the USDA Farm Service Agency.  
Source: <http://www.browncountyindiana.com/main.asp?SectionID=42&SubSectionID=211&ArticleID=10706&TM=208.346>

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## **Water Sector**

19. *January 23, KSBY 6 Santa Barbara* – (California) **Liquid chemical leak in southern Santa Barbara County.** An Exxon facility leaked a liquid chemical into a southern Santa Barbara County creek. Santa Barbara County Fire arrived at the oil and gas plant called Popco. About 420 gallons of sulfolane reportedly leaked into Las Flores Creek, near El Capitan Canyon. The creek merges with Corral Creek and heads south to the ocean. It is not clear if the material made it downstream. Sulfolane has a low health toxicity level, as well as a low flammability level.  
Source: <http://www.ksby.com/global/story.asp?s=7761057>
20. *January 23, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Scottsdale weighs ending ties to water firm in chemical scare.** The city of Scottsdale will investigate whether it is possible to take all its residents and businesses off Arizona American Water Co. supplies in the wake of two contamination incidents in the past three months. Nearly 5,000 Paradise Valley and Scottsdale customers of Arizona American could not use their tap water for three days - last Wednesday through Saturday - because of higher-than-allowable levels of a suspected cancer-causing agent, trichloroethylene. The council voted unanimously to begin studying how the 1,200 Scottsdale residents and other businesses could either be placed on city water or otherwise given greater security. The city manager said that her staff would prepare a preliminary report within 60 days detailing what alternatives should be considered. The Arizona Corporation Commission will hold a special meeting on February 13 to look into the matter, and an Arizona representative plans to raise the issue at a congressional hearing on February 7.  
Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0123newater0123.html>

21. *January 23, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia; Ohio) **Cabell water main break prompts closings, advisories.** Cabell County, West Virginia, schools were closed Wednesday because much of the county and portions of neighboring Wayne County are under a boil water advisory affecting some 30,000 water customers. West Virginia American Water issued the advisory Tuesday afternoon after a major water main break in Huntington. In addition to bringing water used for drinking, cooking, and brushing teeth to a full boil for a minimum of one minute, the utility advises that residents throw away beverages and ice cubes if made with tap water. The company is still looking into what caused the 24-inch concrete pipe to break, said a spokeswoman. Crews were on the scene Wednesday to repair the damage. Water quality samples in the area of the outage have been collected. Once the samples are analyzed and deemed to be in compliance with state and federal water quality standards, West Virginia American Water says the boil water advisory will be lifted. The following areas in West Virginia are affected: Huntington, Altizer, Barboursville, Ceredo, Green Valley, Guyan Estates, Guyandotte, Indian Meadows, Lesage, Montel Park, Ohio River, Pea Ridge, Spring Valley, and Westmoreland. Customers of Ohio American Water in Chesapeake and Burlington, Ohio, also are advised to boil their water because it is purchased from the West Virginia utility.

Source: <http://wvgazette.com/section/Breaking/000001440>

22. *January 22, Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **More water testing leads to more evidence of pollution.** The number of Minnesota waterways known to be polluted has risen to 1,400, its highest level ever. But the increase has more to do with more extensive testing of rivers and lakes than an overall increase in pollution from farms, cities, and factories. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency proposed Tuesday to add nearly 300 “impairments” to the state’s inventory of polluted waters. The list, updated every two years, is required by the federal Clean Water Act to identify lakes and river segments in need of cleanup. New on the latest inventory are listings for PFOS, a chemical formerly made by 3M that has been found in fish in 13 metro-area lakes, and acetochlor, a corn herbicide detected in segments of two southeastern Minnesota rivers. The total number of “impairments” listed in Minnesota waterways is 2,575 because some of them have more than one problem pollutant, said a MPCA research scientist. Only about 18 percent of the state’s lakes and 14 percent of its rivers have been assessed so far, according to the MPCA. Of those tested, about 40 percent fail and are listed for at least one pollutant.

Source: <http://www.startribune.com/local/14013516.html>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

23. *January 23, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **India admits falling behind in bird flu battle.** India’s West Bengal admitted it was falling behind in its battle against bird flu as the virus spread to more than half the densely populated state. Despite reinforcements from neighboring states, at least 1,000 more vets and doctors were needed to help fight the poultry virus outbreak that began over a week ago, the state animal resources minister said. “We don’t have the infrastructure to battle this epidemic.



Bird flu is spreading to new areas. Thousands of chickens are dropping dead every day,” he told Agence France-Presse. Hundreds more culling teams had been sent to 10 districts where bird flu had been confirmed, but not all of them were accompanied by doctors, he said. West Bengal has 19 districts. India has so far not had any human cases of bird flu, but the state animal resources minister fears the disease would spread to humans with hundreds of people reporting flu symptoms in the state of 80 million.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080123/wl\\_sthasia\\_afp/healthfluindia\\_080123131539](http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080123/wl_sthasia_afp/healthfluindia_080123131539)

24. *January 22, Connecticut Post Online* – (California) **Stolen Health Net laptop threatens security.** A laptop containing the Social Security numbers and other personal information of employees and California doctors participating in Health Net Inc.’s plans was stolen in December. A Health Net of the Northeast spokeswoman said Tuesday no doctors in Connecticut or the Northeast were affected by the theft. However, she said, the laptop, owned by a Health Net vendor, contained information about Health Net employees hired before January 1, 2005. It is a problem that could affect several thousand people, she said. The company is not revealing many details about the theft at this time in hopes that withholding information will keep thieves from realizing what they stole. The laptop was taken out of a car, but the official would not say where the theft occurred. The company sent letters to employees during the first week of December and Health Net believes it has contacted nearly all former employees.

Source:

[http://www.connpost.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print\\_article.jsp?articleId=8049019&siteId=36](http://www.connpost.com/portlet/article/html/fragments/print_article.jsp?articleId=8049019&siteId=36)

25. *January 22, Reuters* – (International) **Don’t rely on drugs to delay flu pandemic.** Vaccines and drugs will not be enough to slow or prevent a pandemic of influenza, according to a U.S. government report released on Tuesday. The report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) confirms what most experts have been stressing for years -- that the pharmaceutical industry cannot be relied on alone to protect the world from bird flu. Health experts almost universally agree that a global epidemic -- a pandemic -- of influenza is inevitable and even overdue. Quick use of antiviral drugs, especially Roche AG and Gilead Sciences Inc.’s Tamiflu, can save lives. A vaccine would also help, the GAO report noted. But supplies of both are low and a vaccine would have to be formulated to match the precise strain causing a pandemic -- a process that currently takes months. Many countries have no way to even keep track of outbreaks, meaning the virus could spread unnoticed.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080123/us\\_nm/birdflu\\_prevention\\_dc;\\_ylt=Ai2PBVLdiVcMwH7e13KSnYoWIr0F](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080123/us_nm/birdflu_prevention_dc;_ylt=Ai2PBVLdiVcMwH7e13KSnYoWIr0F)

26. *January 22, MIT News* – (National) **Team IDs weakness in anthrax bacteria.** Massachusetts Institute of Technology and New York University researchers have identified a weakness in the defenses of the anthrax bacterium that could be exploited to produce new antibiotics. The researchers found that nitric oxide (NO) is a critical part of *Bacillus anthracis*’ defense against the immune response launched by cells infected with

the bacterium. Anthrax bacteria that cannot produce NO succumb to the immune system's attack. The Arthur Amos Noyes Professor of Chemistry at MIT and an author of a paper on the work said antibiotics developed to capitalize on this vulnerability could be effective against other bacteria that employ the same defense system. Those bacteria include *Staphylococcus aureus*, which commonly causes infections in hospitals and can be extremely drug-resistant. The paper appeared in the January 21 online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

Source: <http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2008/anthrax-0122.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

27. *January 22, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **School reopens after bomb threat spurs evacuation.** Students at a Daytona Beach, Florida, middle school are back in their classrooms after waiting outside on Tuesday afternoon after a bomb threat caused an evacuation. A caller to Ormond Beach police reported a bomb threat and authorities evacuated the school while they investigated. No device was found during the investigation and no one was hurt.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/wesh/20080122/lo\\_wesh/15112719](http://news.yahoo.com/s/wesh/20080122/lo_wesh/15112719)

28. *January 22, Connecticut Post* – (Connecticut) **Bomb squad on hand as school reopens.** State Police and explosive-detecting dogs checked out Trumbull High School as students returned to classes Tuesday for the first time since Friday, when the school received a bomb threat. Authorities are still investigating who may have been responsible for the bomb hoax, a box and attached wires, along with graffiti in a lavatory that prompted Friday's dismissal shortly after 9 a.m.

Source: [http://www.connpst.com/ci\\_8048992?source=rss](http://www.connpst.com/ci_8048992?source=rss)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

29. *January 22, Department of Homeland Security* – (National) **National response framework released.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) today announced that it had "released the National Response Framework (NRF), successor to the National Response Plan. The NRF, which focuses on response and short-term recovery, articulates the doctrine, principles, and architecture by which our nation prepares for and responds to all-hazard disasters across all levels of government and all sectors of communities. The NRF is responsive to repeated federal, state, local, and private sector requests for a streamlined document that is less bureaucratic and more user-friendly. The NRF also focuses on preparedness and encourages a higher level of readiness across all jurisdictions. The NRF is being released following an extensive process of outreach and coordination between DHS and key stakeholders representing federal, tribal, state, and local governments, non-governmental agencies and associations, and the private sector." "The National Response Framework is an essential tool for emergency managers at all levels," said the DHS secretary. "It helps define the roles,

responsibilities, and relationships critical to effective emergency planning, preparedness and response to any emergency or disaster. Today's release reflects the culmination of many months of hard work and collaboration within the nation's emergency management community." In addition to releasing the NRF base document, the Emergency Support Function Annexes and Support Annexes will be released and posted at the NRF Resource Center ([www.fema.gov/nrf](http://www.fema.gov/nrf)), an online repository of the entire component parts of the NRF. The annexes are a total of 23 individual documents designed to provide concept of operations, procedures, and structures for achieving response directives for all partners in fulfilling their roles under the NRF.

Source: [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1201030569827.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1201030569827.shtm)

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## **Information Technology**

30. *January 23, SCMagazineUS.com* – (International) **China has penetrated key U.S. databases: SANS director.** An aggressive, non-stop campaign by China to penetrate key government and industry databases in the United States already has succeeded and the United States urgently needs to monitor all internet traffic to critical government and private-sector networks "to find the enemy within," the SANS Institute's director of research told SCMagazineUS.com. He said that empirical evidence analyzed by researchers leaves little doubt that the Chinese government has mounted a non-stop, well-financed attack to breach key national security and industry databases, adding that it is likely that this effort is making use of personnel provided by China's People's Liberation Army. The "smoking guns" pointing to a government-directed effort are keystroke logs of the attacks, which have been devoid of errors usually found in amateur hack attacks, the use of spear phishing to gain entry into computer networks, and the massively repetitive nature of the assault, the SANS research director said. SANS earlier this week placed espionage from China and other nations near the top of its annual list of cybersecurity menaces, reporting that targeted spear phishing is the weapon of choice used in the assault on U.S. databases and those of its allies.

Source: <http://scmagazine.com/uk/news/article/778689/china-penetrated-key-us-databases-sans-director/>

31. *January 22, ars technica* – (National) **Compromised web sites serve more malware than malicious ones.** According to security firm WebSense, the number of legitimate web sites that have been hacked and are distributing or enabling various types of malware attacks is greater than the number of malicious sites created specifically for that purpose. The company's latest report discusses this trend, along with the tremendous impact the Storm Worm had on the Internet through all of 2007. As WebSense states, there is a clear advantage to infecting a legitimate site that comes with its own built-in traffic and a user base. The type of theft varies depending on the site. Personal data and credit card information are the most obvious acquisition targets, but online gaming account theft and click-fraud are apparently common as well. It is well known that there are forums, discussion groups, and IRC channels devoted to the topics of which web sites are known to be vulnerable. The problem also runs deeper than simply educating administrators about security vulnerabilities in the software that they use -- locating the

correct host provider for any particular web space can be difficult, and many sites do not fall off WebSense's malicious site blacklist quickly, sometimes remaining there for weeks or even months after being notified of a problem.

Source: <http://arstechnica.com/news/ars/post/20080122-compromised-websites-serve-more-malware-than-malicious-ones.html>

32. *January 22, Network World* – (National) **First case of “drive-by pharming” identified in the wild.** The theory is now a reality. Symantec reported Tuesday that drive-by pharming, in which a hacker changes the DNS settings on a customer's broadband router or wireless access point and directs the link to a fraudulent Web site, has been observed in the wild. The first drive-by pharming attack has been observed against a Mexican bank: “It's associated with an e-mail pretending to be from a legitimate Spanish-language e-greeting card company, Gusanito.com,” says Symantec Security Response's principal researcher. Inside the e-mail is an HTML image tag but instead of displaying images, it sends a request to the home router to tamper with it. In the e-mail evidence Symantec has examined, the code seeks to change 2Wire DSL routers to point the user's Web browser to a fraudulent bank site that mimics the site of one of the largest Mexican banks. “So, whenever you'd want to go to the bank site, instead of the real one, you'd get the attacker's fake site,” he says. For the home PC user, the danger is that this drive-by pharming attack is “so silent and there's only subtle telltale signs that it's occurring,” he adds. A white paper last year from Symantec and the Indiana University School of Informatics coined the term. At the time the researchers detailed the JavaScript-based security threat and said such an attack could hit up to 50 percent of home broadband users. Drive-by pharming can occur because home router equipment is often left configured with default log-in and password information and never changed. Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2008/012208-drive-by-pharming.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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## Communications Sector

33. *January 23, Associated Press* – (National) **AT&T may begin monitoring online traffic.** AT&T Inc. may begin monitoring traffic over its online network in an effort to stamp out theft of copyrighted material, its chief executive said Wednesday. The company's CEO told a conference at the World Economic Forum that the company was still evaluating what it would do about peer-to-peer networks, one of the largest drivers of online traffic, but also a common way to illegally exchange copyright files. “It's like being in a store and watching someone steal a DVD. Do you act?” he asked. Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/22801800/>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

34. *January 22, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Businesses evacuated after gas line break.**

A high-pressure gas line broke Tuesday afternoon after authorities said it was hit by a construction crew. As a precaution, several businesses were evacuated and police closed the intersection, diverting traffic. Xcel Energy workers could be seen working on the break, but did not have an estimate as to when the intersection would reopen. Police in Littleton, Colorado, reported the gas line was hit around 4 p.m. No injuries were reported.

Source:

<http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/15114790/detail.html?rss=den&psp=news>

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Dams Sector**

35. *January 22, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **West Virginia opens new lock and dam.** A significant bottleneck between West Virginia's southern coalfields and their customers was removed Tuesday with the opening of the new \$405 million Marmet Lock and Dam. River traffic should be able to pass through the new lock in 45 minutes, compared with 4 1/2 hours for the old Marmet lock, said a spokeswoman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The new lock, paid for with federal money, is also significantly larger, which the official says will allow as many as 11 linked barges to pass at one time without being broken apart. The old lock could accommodate four barges at a time. The new lock also is expected to improve safety for barge workers, the spokeswoman said. The new lock actually is opening a month ahead of schedule, though she said construction is expected to continue into 2009. Remaining projects include removing old guard walls, reseeding, and adding fishing access, she said.

Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080122/marmet\\_locks.html?.v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080122/marmet_locks.html?.v=1)

36. *January 22, Vernon County Broadcaster* – (Wisconsin) **Federal plan for dam raises red flags for DNR.** The Department of Natural Resources informed the Vernon County Land and Water Conservation Committee last week that it may not approve the federal plan to repair the Jersey Valley dam. A watershed management engineer with the DNR told the committee he has reviewed the latest version of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) plan to repair the 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 DNR engineer said several specific items in the NRCS report concerned the DNR, including leakage in the right abutment of the dam. NRCS has clarified that issue with the county in subsequent meetings and has said it would do a “clay blanket” fix along both sides of the dam. 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 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://vernonbroadcaster.com/articles/2008/01/22/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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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