Department of Homeland Security
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 14 February 2008

- The Associated Press reports undercover New York City police secretly set up a fake company to demonstrate how easily and anonymously a terrorist could purchase chlorine on the Internet for a deadly chemical strike against the city. There has been no specific terror threat against the city involving chemicals, but New York City police recently put more emphasis on screening shipments of chlorine after learning that it has become a favored component of homemade bombs in Iraq. (See item **4**)

- According to the Ottawa Citizen, the head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said in a recent interview that "much more than a dozen" individuals with links to al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, and other extremist groups have been caught trying to enter the U.S. from Canada since September 11. (See item **12**)

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

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED
Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES−ISAC) − [http://www.esisac.com]

1. *February 13, Hess Corporation* – (National) **Hess Corporation unveils Demand Response program.** Hess Corporation today announced the launch of the Hess Demand Response program to commercial and industrial customers. Through the program, Hess's Energy Marketing division pays customers monthly to commit to reducing electricity usage during times of peak demand when local power grids are under

significant stress. The Hess Demand Response program includes in-depth energy audits, installation of metering equipment, and access to an online energy monitoring system known as the Hess PowerPort platform. There are no out-of-pocket costs for customers to receive these services from Hess. Regional power pools provide financial incentives to Demand Response providers for reducing their energy consumption during peak usage periods. The Hess Demand Response program is being launched following a one-year pilot program in 2007. "Demand Response is a way businesses can generate recurring revenue and at the same time help improve the reliability of the power grid," said Hess Energy's vice president of sales and marketing. Hess will initially market its demand response program to customers in three markets: the Eastern Pennsylvania-Jersey-Maryland Regional Transmission Organization, the New York Independent System Operator (ISO), and the New England ISO.
Source: http://www.sunherald.com/447/story/367192.html

2. *February 13, Cherokeean Herald* – (Texas) **State may loan funds to relocate Alto's gas lines in Wells.** The city of Alto, Texas, has until December 1 to relocate its gas lines in the city of Wells which will be affected by the U.S. Highway 69 expansion project. With no money budgeted for such an enormous project, the city may apply for a State Infrastructure Bank loan. At Monday's meeting of the Alto City Council, a Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) employee said that the U.S. Highway 69 expansion project in Wells was a high priority project for TxDOT because it is a hurricane evacuation route. He explained that all utilities will have to be moved before the project's "let" date of December 1. He further explained that all utilities that are already located on highway property will not be eligible for reimbursement from TxDOT. A spokesman for Shaumburg and Polk, Inc. told the council that moving the gas lines will take 60-90 days, with 30-60 days needed to plan the project.
Source: http://www.thecherokeean.com/news/2008/0213/Front_Page/007.html

3. *February 12, Associated Press* – (National; International) **Exxon Mobil cut off from Venezuela's oil.** Venezuela's state oil company said Tuesday that it has stopped selling crude to Exxon Mobil Corp. in response to the U.S. oil company's drive to use the courts to seize billions of dollars in Venezuelan assets. Exxon Mobil is locked in a dispute over the nationalization of its oil ventures in Venezuela that has led President Hugo Chavez to threaten to cut off all Venezuelan oil supplies to the U.S. Tuesday's announcement by state-run Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA) was limited to Exxon Mobil, which PDVSA accused of "judicial-economic harassment" for its efforts in U.S. and European courts. PDVSA said it "has paralyzed sales of crude to Exxon Mobil" and suspended commercial relations with the company. It said it will honor any existing contracts it has with Exxon Mobil for joint investments abroad, but reserved the right to terminate them if permitted by the terms of the contracts. The impact of the decision on Exxon Mobil was not immediately clear. Earlier Tuesday at an energy conference in Houston, an Exxon Mobil senior vice president declined comment on any court proceedings with Venezuela, though he said the company is eager to negotiate fair compensation for its assets. Exxon Mobil is taking the dispute to international arbitration, to which Venezuela has agreed. Chavez relies largely on U.S. oil money to stimulate his economy, and some analysts say it would make little sense for Chavez to

follow through on his threats because Venezuela owns refineries in the U.S. that are customized to handle the South American country's heavy crude.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/americas/02/12/venezuela.oil.ap/index.html

[Return to top]

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *February 13, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYC police carry out fake chlorine deal to demonstrate terror risk.** Undercover police secretly set up a fake company to demonstrate how easily and anonymously a terrorist could purchase chlorine on the Internet for a deadly chemical strike against the city. A videotape – prepared for a briefing Wednesday of private security executives – discloses for the first time the results of the operation. There has been no specific terror threat against the city involving chemicals, but New York City police recently put more emphasis on screening shipments of chlorine after learning that it has become a favored component of homemade bombs in Iraq. Chlorine typically is used as a disinfectant or purifier and as an ingredient in plastics and other products. While routinely transported in liquid form, it can turn into a deadly toxic gas when exposed to air. In remarks prepared for the briefing, a Police Commissioner said the NYPD has been lobbying the Department of Homeland Security to draft stricter regulations requiring chlorine vendors to verify the legitimacy of their customers.
Source: http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/02/13/america/NYC-Chlorine-Threat.php

5. *February 12, WPDE 15 Myrtle Beach* – (South Carolina) **Toxic chemical findings in Myrtle Beach.** New test results are out concerning a toxic chemical leak at a Myrtle Beach plant. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) says those results show people living near the AVX Corporation in Myrtle Beach have no reason to be concerned. A letter to DHEC from Arcadis, the company that did the testing, says the toxic chemical levels are low enough they should not harm people who live or work in that area. This round of testing dealt with samples of soil gas, to make sure people around the AVX plant are not breathing in fumes from the toxic chemical trichloroethene, or "TCE," which DHEC says leaked from the AVX plant. DHEC told city council members TCE does exist in the groundwater, surface water, and soil gas, but says there is not enough contamination for great concern. DHEC requires that AVX clean up the toxic chemical. A group of residents is suing AVX for contamination in their area.
Source: http://www.wpde.com/news/news_story.aspx?id=95233

[Return to top]

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *February 13, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Feds, state will monitor nuke cleanup in Armstrong County.** Federal and state environmental agencies are going to monitor the cleanup at a former nuclear facility in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state Department of Environmental Protection

will oversee the Army Corps of Engineers' removal of radioactive soil from a disposal area at the former Nuclear Materials and Equipment Co. plant in Parks Township. The disposal area consists of ten trenches. Officials said the two agencies will review any proposed cleanup plans, track progress, monitor sampling, and review data. The $53 million cleanup is expected to begin next summer and last until 2013. But officials say cleaning up the site could take longer.
Source:
http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2008/02/feds_state_will_monitor_nuclea.html

7. *February 12, York Dispatch* – (Pennsylvania) **NRC 'white' finding at Peach Bottom means extra inspections.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is expected to increase its level of oversight at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in York County, Pennsylvania, as a result of an inspection that found inattentive security officers and an ineffective behavioral observation program at the facility. Under the NRC's reactor oversight process, the inspection findings have been coded as "white," a classification that signifies a low to moderate safety concern. A team of five inspectors was sent to the plant, owned by Exelon Corp., after a video of sleeping guards was released to the public last September. As a result of the "white" finding, there will be additional NRC oversight activities at the site, including extra inspections. The plant was expecting the white finding to be issued, said an Exelon spokeswoman. "We accept that finding and aren't going to appeal," she said.
Source: http://yorkdispatch.inyork.com/yd/local/ci_8241411?source=rss

Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *February 13, Aviation Week* – (National; International) **U.S. mulls shooting down ailing sat.** U.S. officials are studying the possibility of shooting down the errant Lockheed Martin intelligence satellite that was launched into space for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) and is expected to re-enter the atmosphere late this month or in early March. The concern is that the spacecraft carries a full tank of hydrazine – a toxic propellant – that would have been used to reposition the satellite in orbit. Government analysts say the odds are that the tank will crack open during re-entry or that it will land in the ocean. There also is concern in some quarters that debris could reveal U.S. national security secrets if recovered by other nations. Government agencies including the U.S. Missile Defense Agency and NRO "are studying options that include" hitting the satellite with a weapon so that it breaks up in space – and ruptures the hydrazine tank – before beginning its descent. Aerospace Corp. has assembled some basic data about falling satellites and what can be done about them. "For an orbiting object, shooting it down actually breaks the object into many pieces, some of which could be hazardous to other satellites," the organization says. "Many of the fragments will survive re-entry, but be spread over a much larger area. The pros and cons for a specific case would need to be examined."
Source:
http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=space&id=news/s

9. *February 13, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **Air Force's nuclear focus has dimmed, studies find.** The U.S. military has lost focus on its nuclear-weapons mission and has suffered a sharp decline in nuclear expertise, factors that may have contributed to a mishap last year in which a B-52 bomber unknowingly carried six nuclear warheads across the country, according to two new independent reviews. Both studies found that levels of nuclear training and alertness at the Air Force slipped after the end of the Cold War. But one of the reports was much more critical, saying accidents far worse than the errant B-52 flight could occur without immediate changes in nuclear procedures. "The task force and several of the senior [Defense Department] people interviewed believe that the decline in focus has been more pronounced than realized and too extreme to be acceptable," said the report compiled by an outside panel chaired by a retired Air Force general at the request of the U.S. defense secretary. The report has not found any failures in the security of U.S. nuclear weapons, but concludes that combining nuclear forces with non-nuclear organizations has led to "markedly reduced levels of leadership whose daily focus is the nuclear enterprise and a general devaluation of the nuclear mission and those who perform the mission." Both studies could put new pressure on the Air Force chief of staff to reorganize the service's nuclear forces. Air Force officials said they are already implementing many of the recommendations in both reports, but insisted that existing regulations governing nuclear procedures were adequate.
Source: http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-b52s13feb13,1,756755.story

[Return to top]

Banking and Finance Sector

10. *February 13, CNN* – (National) **Cyberthieves go phishing to rob banks.** A survey of security threats and vulnerabilities for 2007 by the IBM Internet Security Systems X-Force stated that of the top 20 companies targeted by phishing in 2007, 19 are in the banking industry. Computer users are often tricked into visiting fraudulent sites because of "danger, danger" e-mail subject lines like "account security measures," "important notice," or "(your bank name) security notice." For example, a user types www.bankofamerica.com into his or her browser. But instead of the computer using the service provider's server, which would take the user to the real Bank of America server, the computer uses a bogus server run by phishers – and that takes the user to a fake Bank of America server. The phishers take the user's login information and empty the account. Most users, even the savvy ones, would not know that their server settings have been hijacked. The IBM Internet security report shows that nearly 90 percent of all vulnerabilities allow this type of remote exploitation. An engineer and chief technology officer for IBM Internet security said that some other malicious trends include growth in Web browser exploitation, especially for Windows Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox. He says criminals in Brazil have figured out ways to wipe out bank accounts and leave no trail in an individual's online account. And bank customers may be out of luck if the theft goes unnoticed for a while. Usually, banks give only 90 days to remediate an account problem.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2008/TECH/02/12/cyber.thieves/index.html

11. *February 13, Intelligencer Journal* – (National) **Bank scam spreads.** Bank of Lancaster County is warning its customers to beware an online scam that already has cost several people hundreds of dollars – and some even thousands. Phony e-mail surveys designed to pry loose bank customers' card numbers and PIN codes are circulating across Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and beyond, according to bank officials. The survey opens with basic questions that scammers hope will lure the recipient into giving up their account numbers. The survey "will ask a few questions that sound plausible before they then ask for (code) numbers," said the director of communications for Sterling Financial Corp. Bank of Lancaster County officials became aware of this particular scam when recipients began calling a couple of weeks ago. The person or persons behind the scam are likely e-mailing people across the county, hoping they have an account with Bank of Lancaster County.
Source: http://articles.lancasteronline.com/local/4/216560

Transportation Sector

12. *February 13, Ottawa Citizen* – (National) **U.S. revives cross-border terror talk.** The head of the Department of Homeland Security, in a recent interview, revealed "much more than a dozen" individuals with links to al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, and other extremist groups have been caught trying to enter the U.S. since 9/11. His comments coincide with an article in the Cairo-based Middle East Times, in which a foreign affairs and counter-terrorism analyst claims "potentially hundreds of terrorists may have been allowed into the U.S. (from Canada) without showing any proof of identification." The only reported incident of a terrorist attempting to enter the U.S. from Canada for an attack is the 1999 case of the "millennium bomber." In similar remarks to a Chicago newspaper in July, the official raised the specter of extremists from Canada crossing the border with fake documents to "blow up" Buffalo or Detroit. A Homeland Security spokeswoman could not say how many of the cases occurred within the past year or so or what happened to the individuals stopped.
Source: http://www.canada.com/ottawacitizen/news/story.html?id=3a885c2b-7c1b-48f1-b117-892af00f2a6a&k=23422

13. *February 12, Air Line Pilots Association* – (National) **TSA trial screening program must include airline pilots.** The president of the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), International issued a statement in response to the recent announcement by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) of a new trial airport employee screening program at seven airports. The official urged TSA "to truly enhance aviation security by positively confirming pilots' identity and employment status, rather than wasting time and resources through repeated physical screening." He added that "through CrewPASS – an expansion of TSA's highly successful Cockpit Access Security System – trusted airline pilots can be rapidly and positively identified, freeing screeners to process passengers more effectively and quickly."
Source: http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/48742879_tsa-trial-screening-program-

must-include-airline-p

14. *February 12, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA pushing new aircraft safety tool.** Federal regulators on Tuesday said they have sped up the certification process for some electronic displays that provide commercial pilots with more detailed runway information than is available by simply looking out the cockpit window. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said a device from a Boeing Co. unit that uses global positioning technology on a moving map to show pilots their actual position at the airport should be certified soon. Tests showed that pilots typically glanced at the display, then looked out their windows to verify that information, eliminating a major FAA concern that pilots would be "heads down" too long for safe operations. The FAA release comes one day before a House subcommittee hearing on runway safety issues and two months after congressional investigators found that runway safety incidents affecting commercial airlines spiked in fiscal 2007 due to poor FAA leadership, malfunctioning technology, and overworked controllers.
Source: http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-22971169.htm

15. *February 12, Business Journal of Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Milwaukee airport facing mounting air traffic controller shortage.** General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is faced with a mounting air traffic controller shortage as the air space under the airport tower's control is set to expand, union officials contended Tuesday. On February 14, air traffic controllers at Mitchell will become responsible for what is known as the Ripon Approach Control Area. The territory, which encompasses the Oshkosh region, will expand the air space under the supervision of controllers at Mitchell. Controllers at Chicago Center in Aurora, Illinois, have supervised the Ripon Approach Control Area for the past 30 years. The change is being made to accommodate an expansion at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, said the president of the Milwaukee chapter of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association. Mitchell controllers have not been properly trained to handle the added air space, the official said. Currently, there are 40 controllers at Mitchell, with one set to retire in February. As a result, the Air Traffic Controllers Association claims the Milwaukee area "is in crisis and the public's safety is on the line." "This is an issue about safety and controller fatigue," said the official. He also claimed that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) denied a request by the association that would have provided Mitchell controllers with live training at Chicago Center. "Controllers will be operating in air space that is unfamiliar to them," he said. The union's actions are a political move designed to force Congress to re-open contract talks, an FAA spokeswoman said.
Source: http://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2008/02/11/daily16.html?t=printable

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

Agriculture and Food Sector

16. *February 13, USAgNet* – (National) **Combined viruses cause more deadly disease in pigs.** A pig virus that exists worldwide has become more dangerous as the virus has mutated and then combined with other pathogens, according to Purdue University researchers. It is not known why a virus that has been known to infect swine for almost 40 years in North America in 1991 suddenly started causing disease in young pigs and then began mutating into more deadly forms. Evidence from research being conducted at the Indiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory on the Purdue campus has indicated that the most recent mutation of a group of viruses called "porcine circoviruses" can cause widespread acute disease. Other pathogens can combine with the virus to increase the fatality rate significantly. In the past decade, porcine circoviruses have spread to almost every area of the world where hogs are raised, but the mortality rate per herd is usually low. However, on farms infected with other viruses in addition to the new form of porcine circovirus disease, the mortality rate rose to 35 percent to 50 percent. Porcine circoviruses do not infect people.
Source: http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=364&yr=2008

17. *February 13, USAgNet* – (National) **FBI plans third annual Symposium on Agroterrorism.** The FBI will hold its third annual International Symposium on Agroterrorism April 22-24 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri. The goals of the symposium are to prevent acts of agroterrorism through well-coordinated intelligence collection, analysis, and dissemination processes; develop technical and tactical response strategies to neutralize and eliminate a potential attack; provide an opportunity for education across a variety of disciplines regarding threats directed at the world's food supply; and provide an avenue to share ideas and information among attendees through meaningful dialogue and networking opportunities. For more information, go to http://www.fbi-isa.org/program.html.
Source: http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=369&yr=2008

18. *February 13, Ohio Farmer* – (National) **USDA releases advance copy of 10-year projections.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Office of the Chief Economist on Tuesday posted online the report of agricultural projections for the next ten years. An Interagency Agricultural Projection Committee with representatives from several USDA agencies put the report together. According to the committee chairman, the purpose of the report is to give USDA an idea of where farm program expenditures may go and also acts as a baseline by which changes in agricultural policy can be measured. Some of the key points that the report projects: reasonably strong world economic growth starting in 2009 and the continued depreciation of the dollar through 2011. This will increase demand for U.S. agricultural products. High petroleum and energy prices will make corn-based ethanol profitable, and there are a number of countries that are much more interested in producing biofuels. The report also projects soybean production falling as Brazil increases soy production, and meat production is slowing for the first half of projections on high feed costs and lower returns. However, there will be strong domestic demand; and by the turn of the decade, higher returns are

expected in that sector. The report can be viewed at www.usda.gov/oce. The printed version will be available February 21 at the USDA's Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum.
Source: http://ohiofarmer.com/index.aspx?ascxid=fpStory&fpsid=32231&fpstid=1

19. *February 12, NEWSInferno* – (Minnesota) **Listeria warning in Minnesota for J&B Meats smoke pork & beef bratwurst.** The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is alerting consumers to avoid consuming smoked pork and beef bratwurst produced by J&B Meats, of Barnesville, Minnesota. A routine product sampling revealed that the meat products are contaminated with the Listeria monocytogenes bacteria. There have been no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of the Listeria tainted J&B meat products. MDA investigators are now working to determine the source of the Listeria contamination. J&B Meats is cooperating with MDA's investigation. The bratwurst in question are marked lot number PBB30306 and Minnesota State Establishment Number 1198. J&B Meats sold the bratwurst at its retail store in Barnesville; the products are often sold frozen.
Source: http://www.newsinferno.com/archives/2563

[Return to top]

Water Sector

20. *February 13, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Commission will discuss TCE water contamination.** The Arizona Corporation Commission will host a special open meeting today to discuss two trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination incidents. The contamination involved the Arizona American Water Co. system that serves nearly 5,000 Paradise Valley and Scottsdale customers. The commissioner called for the fact-finding meeting following an incident in mid-January, in which Arizona American imposed a three-day ban telling its customers not to use their tap water for drinking and preparing food. The ban was in response to an incident in which concentrations of TCE exceeded federal standards by four times. A blower on an air-stripping tower at a treatment plant operated by Arizona American in Scottsdale that removes TCE from groundwater malfunctioned. That caused tainted water to flow through customers' water pipes for up to 16 hours before the problem was detected. A trio of alarms designed to alert operators at home to a problem failed to do so. State and federal officials said there were no health consequences because of the short duration of the contamination, but those same officials are conducting investigations into what happened and how to prevent it from happening in the future. The other incident occurred in October when about twice the federal maximum level of TCE was detected. Arizona American officials said the contaminated water did not reach customers' taps.
Source:
http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0213netcemeet0213.html

21. *February 12, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (National) **Researches see Lake Mead drying up in 15 years.** Lake Mead, one of the West's linchpin reservoirs, could go dry in 15 years if climate- and water-use trends do not change, researchers at Scripps Institution of Oceanography said Tuesday. Without the reservoir, residents in Southern

California and Nevada would be highly vulnerable to yearly changes in rainfall, and water deliveries would become "highly unstable," said climate experts. The two scientists reported that trends in snowpack, river runoff, and air temperatures point to a decline in the region's water supply as the population and water demand grows. The Lake Mead-Lake Powell system includes the stretch of the Colorado River in northern Arizona. Aqueducts carry the water from the river to cities such as Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Currently, the system is only at half-capacity because of a recent string of dry years. Scripps' study builds on earlier reports about the impact of climate change in the Southwest. In 2007, the National Research Council said global warming and soaring population growth across the Southwest threaten to overwhelm the Colorado River system.
Source: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/nation/20080212-1045-bn12water.html

[Return to top]

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

22. *February 13, WLNS 6 Lansing* – (Michigan) **Highly-contagious virus spreading in Michigan.** RSV, a highly contagious respiratory virus that strikes the very young, is on the rise in Michigan. Winter is the worst time of year for the virus, but a local pediatrician said this year's has seen an unusual rise in cases – "one and a half to two times as many" as normal. He added that not only are there more cases, but the cases are more severe, having led to the hospitalization of four children. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 25 percent of children tested for RSV in Michigan in recent weeks were positive. They say anything over ten percent means parents and local health officials need to start paying close attention.
Source: http://www.wlns.com/Global/story.asp?S=7864326

23. *February 13, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California; Hawaii) **Flight spreads measles from San Diego to Hawaii.** San Diego's measles outbreak has spread aboard a planeload of passengers to Hawaii, where an 11-month-old baby infected in a Bird Rock medical clinic last month is recovering in isolation at an island military base. Hawaiian health officials are trying to find about 250 passengers on the Hawaiian Airlines flight, especially children, who may have come in contact with the sick infant, said San Diego County's public health officer. Health officials also are trying to find people who were at Lindbergh Field's Terminal 2, Gate 41 between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday. That time period covers two hours before and after the 10:30 a.m. departure of Flight 15. In less than a month, the outbreak – San Diego County's first since 1991 – began in Switzerland and has spanned about half the globe. San Diego County health officials have confirmed measles in five patients, and they are investigating five suspected cases. All these children, from infants to a 9-year-old, were not vaccinated because they were younger than one – the minimum age for measles inoculation – or because their parents objected to having them vaccinated. In the U.S., measles can be fatal in up to three per 1,000 children who contract it. The death rates are higher in developing countries.
Source: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080213-9999-1n13measles.html

24. *February 13, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Flu outbreak at U-MD worst in 10 years.**

Officials at the University of Maryland are calling a flu outbreak there the worst in ten years. More than 400 students have been diagnosed with the flu on campus, and more cases are being reported. Maryland is not the only school where flu problems have been reported. Last week, the University of Virginia reported a large flu outbreak.
Source: http://www.wtopnews.com/index.php?nid=708&sid=1344434

25. *February 12, eFluxMedia* – (National) **CDC: Flu vaccine ineffective this year, but still worth having.** The flu vaccine being used this winter is not as well matched to the strains of flu starting to appear across the U.S., but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still said people should be vaccinated. According to a report released by the CDC, this year's vaccine does not match two of three main flu bugs knocking people down. Despite this mismatch, the CDC recommended getting a flu shot because it will lessen the severity and protect against potentially serious complications. According to the CDC's latest weekly influenza season report, 31 states reported widespread flu, 17 states reported regional activity, and two states and the District of Columbia reported local influenza activity. Reports indicate that each year, more than 35,000 Americans die from influenza, which is especially dangerous for those who are young, old, or have weakened immune systems.
Source:
http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_CDC_Flu_Vaccine_Ineffective_This_Year_but_Still_Worth_Having_13907.html

Government Facilities Sector

Nothing to report.

[Return to top]

Emergency Services Sector

26. *February 13, Enquirer* – (Ohio) **System will clear traffic in emergencies.** Miami Township, in Clermont County, Ohio, has received a federal grant of more than $298,000 to help pay for a traffic-control system that will enable fire trucks and ambulances to change stoplights at 33 intersections. The township will chip in about $33,000 of its own money for the system, which is designed to speed emergency responders and reduce the possibility of accidents. Miami Township plans to equip five fire trucks, four ambulances, and eight other emergency vehicles with the radio units and onboard computers that work with a global positioning system, said the Fire and EMS chief. "If we're approaching an intersection, it knows where we are – it's not line of sight. It also knows if our turn signal is on, which direction we plan on turning, and it will adjust the lights accordingly. … What it hopefully does is clear the intersection so we're not fighting traffic as we're approaching," he said. The maker of the system is Global Traffic Technologies, said Miami Township's assistant Fire and EMS chief. He said he did not know of other localities in the county using such a system.
Source:

27. *February 12, TMCnet* – (National) **New network interoperability solution from Sprint and Motorola.** Sprint and Motorola, Inc. have announced a new local, regional, and national network interoperability solution that allows two types of push-to-talk services to communicate with each other. Thanks to a new gateway developed by Motorola, the MOTOBRIDGE IP Interoperable solution, disparate networks are integrated and can be used daily or for emergency applications. Nextel Direct Connect offers fast push-to-talk service. The new interoperability that is achieved with the solution makes it possible for a Nextel Direct Connect user to talk directly to a first responder who uses a Project 25 land mobile radio. The MOTOBRIDGE Solution also offers users advanced Nextel features like Group Calls, Emergency alerts, Call Alert Status Messages, and others. "The collaboration between Motorola and Sprint is a critical step to further boosting communications capabilities for public safety personnel," said a GlobalOptions Group representative.
Source: http://www.tmcnet.com/comsol/articles/20601-new-network-interoperability-solution-from-sprint-motorola.htm

28. *February 12, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (Missouri) **First responders train on hybrids, airbags.** If you get in a car wreck in a newer model car, the safety features pose a hidden danger and could cause damage to your family or an emergency responder. The car industry is constantly working to make cars safer, and technology is constantly changing. Kansas City, Missouri, firefighters attended training Tuesday on the safest way to respond to crashes involving hybrid electric vehicles and vehicles with advanced airbag systems. First responders to crash sites learned how to handle the potential dangers of undeployed airbags and high-voltage vehicle battery systems. An airbag safety specialist presented the training. He said, "We have had a few cases where firefighters have gotten hurt by airbags inadvertently. The problem is they aren't familiar with the system." He said many of the newer SUVs have up to 12 airbags and smaller cars vary. So getting firefighters familiar with the systems is the best way to keep everyone safe after a crash, he said.
Source: http://www.kctv5.com/news/15281948/detail.html

[Return to top]

Information Technology

29. *February 13, IDG News Service* – (National) **Valentine's Day-themed Storm worm attacks detected.** A Valentine's-themed outbreak of the Storm worm has been detected. Malicious e-mails are being received across the globe – they contain a Web link, which directs users to a Web site where they can supposedly download a Valentine's card, but in fact are infected with the Storm bug. The virus mirrors the fake Christmas and New Year messages seen in previous months. According to a security analyst at McAfee, the virus will try to steal personal information from your PC, bring down its security defenses, and use your PC to send out millions of junk e-mails. "There are about ten million PCs worldwide infected with the Storm worm. These threats have suddenly spiked from zero percent of all spam e-mails to 1.5 percent, and they are continuing to

rise as we draw closer to Valentine's Day, and more people are fooled into downloading the malicious file," he commented.
Source:
http://www.infoworld.com/archives/emailPrint.jsp?R=printThis&A=/article/08/02/13/Valentine-Day-Storm-worm-attacks-detected_1.html

30. *February 12, Network World* – (National) **Blended security threats on the rise, IBM says.** The number of malware code samples in the wild grew 30 percent to 410,000 in 2007, according to security researchers at IBM's Internet Security Systems (ISS) division. The Storm worm in particular accounted for 13 percent of the entire malware collection. IBM released these findings and more in its security trends report for 2007, which summarizes the threat landscape based on IBM's research on malware, software vulnerabilities, phishing, and Web sites with questionable content. While software vulnerabilities decreased 5.4 percent last year to 6,437 disclosures by vendors, the most risky "high impact" vulnerabilities that allow immediate remote or local access increased from 16.2 percent in 2006, the first such increase noted since 2004. The operations manager at X-Force Research and Development at IBM ISS says one thing that struck him about this year's threat analysis is that half of the software vulnerabilities reported by vendors in 2007 had no vendor patch available for them. "It seems that vendors have not produced patches, and we don't know why," he says. On the spam front, average spam message size is down to pre-2005 levels, corresponding with a decrease in image-based spam, the 2007 IBM ISS report says. In its malware-code analysis, IBM ISS says there is a shift from mass-mailing worms to sophisticated targeted Trojan attacks with rootkits and other blended threats. Trojans made up the single largest class of malware in 2007, accounting for 26 percent of the total. But IBM ISS believes that malware code is becoming less distinct as simply a virus, worm, spyware, backdoor, or password stealer.
Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/02/12/Blended-security-threats-on-the-rise-IBM-says_1.html

31. *February 12, InformationWeek* – (National) **Microsoft's Patch Tuesday includes 11 security bulletins.** Microsoft on Tuesday released 11 Security Bulletins that address 17 potential vulnerabilities. Six of the Security Bulletins are rated critical; five are rated important. Microsoft did not include a fix for a JScript vulnerability that the company mentioned in its pre-patch guidance last week. The affected software includes WebDAV Mini-Redirector, Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) Automation, Microsoft Word, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Office Publisher, and Microsoft Office. The OLE and Word vulnerabilities affect both Microsoft's Windows and Mac customers. Components with important vulnerabilities include Active Directory/Active Directory Application Mode, Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, Internet Information Services, and Microsoft Works File Converter. A Symantec senior research manager observed that Tuesday's round of fixes points to the increasing use of trusted sites to distribute malware. "While the batch of critical vulnerabilities all require some sort of user interaction to exploit, the interaction can be as simple as visiting a trusted Web site that has first been exploited by an attacker," he said in an e-mail. "As consumers and enterprises become more savvy to security risks, attackers are leveraging alternative

means to distribute malware through these trusted sites in addition to distributing via an attachment or random link in an e-mail."
Source:
http://www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=206502000

<div style="text-align:center;">

Internet Alert Dashboard

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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 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/.

Communications Sector

32. *February 12, Associated Press* – (National) **BlackBerry outage caused by upgrade.** The company behind the BlackBerry smart phones said a three-hour e-mail outage Monday was caused by an upgrade designed to increase capacity. Research in Motion Ltd. Tuesday said the upgrade was part of "routine and ongoing efforts," and that similar upgrades in the past had caused no problems. The outage, which started about 3:30 p.m., annoyed subscribers who are used to checking and writing e-mail whenever they are in cellular coverage and able to make voice calls. It affected only some of the BlackBerry users in North America; for others, the service kept working fully. It was the second major outage for the service in less than a year. In April, a minor software upgrade crashed the system for all users. A smaller disruption in September also was caused by a software glitch. Experts said RIM's system is relatively reliable, but its centralized structure means that when there are problems, they can affect millions of users. E-mail sent to and from BlackBerry phones in North America all goes through a Network Operations Center. It appears the problem occurred there, when one of two Internet addresses that relay e-mail from corporate servers stopped responding, according to Zenprise, a Fremont, California, company that helps companies troubleshoot BlackBerry problems.
Source:
http://news.wired.com/dynamic/stories/B/BLACKBERRY_OUTAGE?SITE=WIRE&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2008-02-12-18-28-49

Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report.

National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

Dams Sector

33. *February 13, WTHI 10 Terre Haute* – (Illinois; Indiana) **Flooding causes load limit.**
High water along the Wabash has prompted state officials to limit traffic on State Road
154 in Sullivan County, Indiana, as they do not want heavy loaded trucks rolling across
the bridge over the Wabash River at Hutsonville, Illinois. The river there is pushing
against the Highland Levee, where crews used some 7,000 sandbags last weekend to
shore it up. The concern now is that vibrations from heavy truck traffic could cause the
levee to fail. Officials are trying to keep from repeating the problem that hit here in
2005, when the Highland Levee did break, flooding hundreds of acres and closing State
Road 154 for two months.
Source: http://www.wthitv.com/Global/story.asp?S=7864089&nav=menu593_2

34. *February 13, Jackson Hole News & Guide* – (Wyoming) **Sublette County supports
Green River dam.** Commissioners in Sublette County, Wyoming, have thrown their
support behind construction of a dam and reservoir on the main stem of the Green River
"at high elevation." The commissioners signed a resolution in December advocating the
controversial project on the longest tributary of the Colorado River. The proposed dam
site – 60 miles southeast of Jackson and a mile upstream from where Highway 191
crosses the Green River – has been criticized by water development officials statewide.
Source: http://www.jhguide.com/article.php?art_id=2738

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at 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 or visit their Web page at www.us−cert.gov.

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