



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 February 2008

Current Nationwide



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- According to the North Platte Bulletin, there is a train derailment accident somewhere in the U.S. every five hours, according to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). There were 1,696 derailments nationwide from all railroad companies, a reduction of 14 percent from 1,982 derailments in 2006. There were 1,722 hazmat releases nationally from United Pacific (UP) and 215 hazmat cars damaged or derailed. (See item [13](#))
- BBC reports that several hundred protesters attacked the U.S. and other embassies on February 23 in Serbia's capital in anger at Western support for Kosovo's independence. The UN Security Council condemned the attacks. The violence followed a peaceful rally by at least 150,000 people in the city. Later about 1,000 protesters smashed their way into the U.S. embassy, throwing flares through the window while others scaled walls to rip down the US flag. (See item [23](#))

### **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](#)

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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 22, Times Union* – (New York) **SuperPower project advances.** SuperPower Inc. celebrated last Thursday the re-energizing of its high-temperature superconducting wire project being operated between two National Grid substations in Albany and Menands, New York. Superconducting wire is expected to revolutionize the electrical

transmission business because it is much more efficient than traditional copper wiring used by utilities in transmission lines. SuperPower – purchased in 2006 by Royal Philips Electronics – has introduced a second-generation version of its wire in the \$27 million project, the first time ever that such advanced technology has been used in the electrical grid anywhere in the world. The technology has the ability to “change the way we deliver power in the Empire State” and help New York reduce its electricity consumption, because superconducting wire does not lose as much energy as copper does, said the president of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, which has given \$6 million to the project.

Source:

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=665847&category=BUSINESS&newsdate=2/22/2008>

2. *February 22, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **Big price increase behind Duquesne Light’s decision to leave PJM.** As a result of a recent auction of electricity, Duquesne Light will pay upwards of 300 percent more for some of its electrons in 2010 and 2011 than it is paying now. That increase, the company says, lies behind its decision to withdraw from PJM Interconnection, the agency that manages the electricity grid in 13 northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states, and to become a member of Midwest ISO, a grid operator based in Indiana, effective May 31. Since April, PJM has conducted a series of “capacity auctions,” which set prices in advance for electricity to be held in reserve for occasions when a utility’s regular supply of juice is not enough. A July auction produced a price of \$120 per megawatt for the 2008-2009 year. On February 1, the price for the 2010-2011 year was set at \$174 per megawatt. A PJM spokesman said the pricing model is not that different from how pricing works in other areas, and pointed out the auction is optional. A spokesman for Midwest ISO said “We don’t have a capacity construct at this point. Nor does the central states grid manager have plans for developing a structure for managing reserve capacity.” Citizen Power worries about Midwest ISO’s reliability and filed a petition with the state Public Utility Commission (PUC), asking the agency to investigate Duquesne Light’s withdrawal from PJM. While the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may have the last word on electricity wholesaling, the PUC “can certainly assert their authority on the impact this will have on the retail customers in Pennsylvania,” said Citizen Power’s director.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08053/859443-28.stm>

3. *February 22, BusinessWeek* – (International) **Oil prices: it’s not about the oil.** On February 20 crude oil settled at \$100.74 – the highest ever settlement price – the second consecutive session with a settlement above \$100. The spike was produced by a laundry list of news, from cold weather to a refinery explosion in Texas to the (falsely) rumored murder of a Nigerian militant leader. But when government inventories on February 21 showed the nation’s crude oil supplies rose more than expected last week, West Texas crude shed \$2.51, to close at \$98.23. What is driving oil prices? Economics 101 says price is determined by the balance of supply and demand. But when it comes to the oil market, fears and expectations have been trumping economic rules and carrying the day. “These movements have nothing to do with supply or demand, or with oil for that matter,” says a senior analyst with Oppenheimer in New York. “There is more

exaggeration than ever before in this market.” The exaggeration comes, in part, from a marked increase in speculators entering the oil market in recent years. In essence, oil’s headline-topping surges and retreats over the past year are not the result of market fundamentals but of oil traders’ minute-by-minute reflexes. Each piece of news lets traders anticipate threats to future supply and demand, bidding up or down the price as they take long or short positions. Why do empty threats and false rumors have the power to shift a commodity’s price so quickly – and so dramatically? “Traders have to assess risk,” says a trader at Alaron Trading in Chicago. “The markets have to play out the emotional reaction to the news. Chavez’s words may be just that, but there is the slight chance the guy is crazy enough to carry them out.” Where prices head from here is the subject of much debate. Even if there is that much air in the price, some analysts do not see oil heading down anytime soon. But others say a deflation in oil is inevitable.

Source:

[http://www.businessweek.com/bwdaily/dnflash/content/feb2008/db20080221\\_593045.htm?chan=rss\\_topStories\\_ssi\\_5](http://www.businessweek.com/bwdaily/dnflash/content/feb2008/db20080221_593045.htm?chan=rss_topStories_ssi_5)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *February 21, Associated Press* – (National) **Industry’s toxic chemicals declined.** Toxic chemical pollution from industrial plants and factories declined by 2 percent in 2006 despite increases in the mining and petroleum sectors, the government said Thursday. Companies reported that 4.25 billion pounds of toxic chemicals were released into the air, onto land, into waterways, injected deep into the ground, or stored on site as waste. That is about 105 million pounds less than 2005. The annual Toxic Release Inventory Report covers 2006, the latest year for which figures are available. The 2006 figures reflected a change that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) allowed, reducing the amount of information that some companies needed to report. Companies could turn in shorter, less detailed forms if they used less than 5,000 pounds of toxic chemicals or released less than 2,000 pounds. In the past, more detailed information had to be provided in longer forms at a threshold of 500 pounds. The new rule maintains that reporting threshold for only some of the most dangerous chemicals. Opponents of the change have said the more lenient reporting allows some facilities to hide data about toxic chemical releases. The EPA said the changes only streamlined the reporting process. The EPA said 22,880 industrial and manufacturing facilities submitted 87,900 forms on the 2006 data. The reporting covered 650 chemicals.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hWXIWUmS87U929edD9fnVf9B8h0AD8UV16380>

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

5. *February 22, Las Vegas Review-Journal* – (Nevada) **Nevada quake.** Last Thursday’s 6.0 earthquake that shook northeastern Nevada is certain to raise fears over the safety of

burying nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain, a few hundred miles to the south-southwest. The Department of Energy insists the nuke dump will be built to withstand major earthquakes – and that even in the event a canister were ruptured, no radioactivity would be directly released into the air or groundwater. Yucca Mountain is an area of relatively high seismic activity, and seismologists admit that they do not know exactly what would occur were an 8.0 quake to strike very near the proposed nuke dump.

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/opinion/15870377.html>

6. *February 22, Cape Cod Times* – (Massachusetts) **Hearing scheduled on Pilgrim radioactive waste.** Members of the public will have a chance to comment on the management plan for buried pipes and holding tanks that contain radioactive water at the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, Massachusetts. A hearing is scheduled for April 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth. The next morning, Pilgrim Watch, a Duxbury-based citizens group that brought the issue to light, will get its hearing. The group plans to present evidence on why the system is inadequate, arguing there need to be 14 to 20 monitoring wells to assure the pipes and tanks do not leak. Pilgrim's current license expires in 2012, and it has applied for a 20-year extension. A decision on the application was due in November, but because Pilgrim Watch was granted the hearing, it has been delayed until July. It is only the second time ever a hearing has been approved in a license renewal process, said a spokesman for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. There are 104 nuclear power plants in the U.S. Forty-eight have had operating license extensions approved. None has ever been denied, he said.

Source:

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080222/NEWS/802220313>

7. *February 21, U.S. News and World Report* – (National) **Nuclear industry eyes a smaller renaissance.** Although 17 companies are preparing license applications for as many as 31 new nuclear power plants, the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) told a gathering of more than 100 Wall Street analysts that it expects the big group of contenders to winnow itself down for the first wave of new construction. NEI projects that four to eight new power plants will move ahead and be operational by 2016. Each new plant is likely to cost about \$5 billion in today's money and \$6 billion to \$7 billion by the time of completion. At the top of the nuclear industry's agenda, and that of the Wall Street banks that would finance the plants, is for the federal government to provide loan guarantees for these megaprojects. In the energy bill Congress passed in December, lawmakers gave the industry \$18 billion in loan guarantees. But the industry says that to finance eight plants and put them into service by 2016, it would need double that amount.

Source: <http://www.usnews.com/blogs/beyond-the-barrel/2008/02/21/nuclear-industry-eyes-a-smaller-renaissance.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *February 21, Lockheed Martin* – (National) **Lockheed Martin demonstrates two-way video datalink for the Sniper Advanced.** Lockheed Martin recently demonstrated a prototype two-way video data link (VDL) for the Sniper Advanced Targeting Pod (ATP) during a U.S. Air Force Sniper users' conference. The two-way VDL allows forward deployed forces to receive Sniper's high resolution streaming video and upload annotated images directly back to the Sniper pod. Pilots can review uplinked tactical video on their cockpit displays. "The two-way VDL significantly improves communications between ground and air, allowing more accurate and successful missions," said the technical director of the Sniper ATP program. The Sniper ATP is integrated on the F-15E, F-16 (all blocks), F-18C/D, A-10A+, A-10C, B-1, and Harrier aircrafts. The addition of the two-way production capability is planned for 2008.

Source: <http://pressmediawire.com/article.cfm?articleID=5442>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *February 21, Computerworld* – (California) **Credit reporting firm sues LifeLock over fraud alerts in consumer history files.** LifeLock Inc., which touts itself as one of the largest providers of identity theft protection services in the U.S., is being sued by Experian Inc. for allegedly placing false fraud alerts on consumer credit-history files maintained by Experian as part of its credit reporting business. LifeLock's business model is built around false and misleading advertising and fraudulent practices that are causing millions of dollars in monetary damages to Experian and that eventually could reduce the effectiveness of fraud alerts, according to the suit. Experian asked the court to order LifeLock to pay its full restitution of the costs incurred as a result of the latter's alleged wrongful conduct, as well as a "disgorgement" of any profits that LifeLock may have earned as a result of that conduct. The credit reporting firm also is seeking unspecified punitive and compensatory damages, plus an injunction barring LifeLock from continuing to engage in its allegedly false and misleading advertising activities. In an interview Thursday, LifeLock's CEO strongly refuted Experian's claims and contended that the lawsuit was a blatant attempt to prevent his company from expanding its credit monitoring business. As part of LifeLock's identity theft protection service, the company places fraud alerts on behalf of its subscribers with Experian and its two main rivals: Equifax Inc. and TransUnion LLC. For an annual subscription fee of \$110, LifeLock promises to keep renewing the fraud alerts every 90 days and to remove the names of subscribers from credit card and other junk mail lists. LifeLock also offers to order free credit reports on behalf of its customers and to act on their behalf to cancel and renew cards that are lost or stolen. The company guarantees that it will pay up to \$1 million over the course of a subscriber's lifetime to cover any fraud-related costs caused by a failure of its service.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=cybercrime\\_and\\_hacking&articleId=9063942&taxonomyId=82&intsrc=kc\\_to\\_p](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=cybercrime_and_hacking&articleId=9063942&taxonomyId=82&intsrc=kc_to_p)

10. *February 21, Computerworld* – (National) **Tenet Healthcare warns 37,000 patients of**

**data compromise.** Dallas-based Tenet Healthcare Corp. last week sent out notices to about 37,000 patients informing them about the potential compromise of their personal and financial data. The warning came after a former data processor at a Tenet bill-processing center in Frisco, Texas, was arrested last month and subsequently pleaded guilty to five counts of fraudulent possession and use of identification information stolen from Tenet. At the time of his arrest, the suspect had identity information belonging to about 90 patients in his possession.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=cybercrime\\_and\\_hacking&articleId=9064018&taxonomyId=82&intsrc=kc\\_to\\_p](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=cybercrime_and_hacking&articleId=9064018&taxonomyId=82&intsrc=kc_to_p)

11. *February 21, Associated Press* – (California) **Calif. lottery warns of scam on eve of MEGA Millions jackpot.** State lottery officials are warning Californians to beware of letters suggesting they have won a \$75,000 MEGA Millions jackpot and asking them to use an enclosed \$4,700 check to pay fees to claim their winnings. A Lottery spokesman says the check looks authentic but is bogus. He says it is part of a common scam used to get recipients to surrender some of their own money in hopes of getting a lottery prize. The letters from a company called Lotto Line are showing up in some mail boxes on the eve of a \$270 million MEGA Millions jackpot drawing. They ask recipients to contact an accounts manager to activate the check and start the claims process. Lottery officials say the California Lottery never asks winners to send a processing fee to claim a prize.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2008/02/21/financial/f175745S13.DTL&tsp=1>

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## **Transportation Sector**

12. *February 21, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Airport evacuated after suspicious package found.** A section of the Akron-Canton Regional Airport, Ohio, was evacuated Thursday afternoon after a suspicious package was discovered. The package was found around 4:50 p.m. behind the U.S. Airway ticket counter. Officials evacuated about 40 people in that part of the terminal and they were taken to baggage claim. The Summit County Bomb Squad was called in and determined the package was not a threat. The package was taken as evidence. Business has since resumed as normal.

Source: <http://www.newsnet5.com/news/15371311/detail.html>

13. *February 21, North Platte Bulletin* – (National) **Train derailments on the decline.** There is a train derailment accident somewhere in the U.S. every five hours, according to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). There were 1,696 derailments nationwide from all railroad companies, a reduction of 14 percent from 1,982 derailments in 2006. There were 1,722 hazmat releases nationally from United Pacific (UP) and 215 hazmat cars damaged or derailed. But not all derailments are reported, according to a UP spokesman. Derailments that fall under a certain dollar amount do not have to be reported to the FRA and there is no way to know how many of those occur each year. “The pure definition of a derailment is when one wheel is off the rail,” she said. “We



examine every derailment whether it is reportable or not.”

Source:

<http://www.northplattebulletin.com/index.asp?show=news&action=readStory&storyID=14053&pageID=3>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

14. *February 21, Las Cruces Sun-News* – (Texas) **White powder found in prison mail.** A suspicious white powder led to a temporary lockdown and decontamination Wednesday of two mail room employees at the La Tuna federal prison in Anthony, Texas. A La Tuna public information officer said the powder was found in incoming mail addressed to an inmate. Inmate and employee mail is processed at a separate building, about a quarter-mile outside the secure perimeter of the facility where federal prisoners are housed. The powder was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and determined not to be a biological agent. Further testing was under way to see if the powder could be an illegal or narcotic substance. The investigation was pending that determination, he said.

Source: [http://www.lcsun-news.com/news/ci\\_8327404](http://www.lcsun-news.com/news/ci_8327404)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

15. *February 22, Des Moines Register* – (National) **USDA: Grocery costs will rise even higher.** Food prices rose four percent last year and will rise another three percent to four percent this year, said the U.S. Agriculture Department’s chief economist. Prices should continue rising faster than the overall inflation rate through 2010, he told the USDA’s annual outlook conference. About half the projected rise in food costs this year is due to higher prices for corn, soybeans, wheat, and other commodities, he said. Higher energy costs are responsible for the rest of the increase in grocery prices. Commodity prices have soared over the past year because of growing demand for crops for biofuels and export. Consumers feel the impact most directly in prices of meat and dairy products because of the rising cost of livestock feed, economists say.

Source:

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080222/BUSINESS01/802220396/-1/NEWS04>

16. *February 21, Xinhua* – (National) **Record-breaking U.S. agricultural exports forecast in 2008.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture secretary announced Thursday that U.S. agricultural exports are forecast to reach a record 101 billion U.S. dollars for fiscal year 2008, up 10 billion dollars from November’s forecast and an unprecedented 19 billion dollars above 2007. He said in a speech at the USDA’s Agricultural Outlook Forum: “Based on current market conditions, bulk grains, oilseeds, and cotton exports should rise 13.2 billion dollars and account for 70 percent of the overall increase in export value for 2008. Higher prices account for most of this increase, but export volumes are also

generally higher.” Foreign economic growth continues to support gains in consumer incomes and growth in the size of the middle class, particularly in the emerging markets. These consumers tend to spend more on food as their incomes rise, including food imported from the U.S.

Source: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-02/22/content\\_7646586.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2008-02/22/content_7646586.htm)

17. *February 21, Associated Press* – (National) **Inspectors say meat safety is threatened.** Sometimes, government inspectors responsible for examining slaughterhouse cattle for mad cow disease and other ills are so short-staffed that they find themselves peering down from catwalks at hundreds of animals at once, looking for such telltale signs as droopy ears, stumbling gait, and facial paralysis. The ranks of inspectors are so thin that slaughterhouse workers often figure out when “surprise” visits are about to take place, and make sure they are on their best behavior, former U.S. Department of Agriculture inspectors allege. The inspectors told the Associated Press that they fear chronic staff shortages in their ranks are allowing sick cows to get into the nation’s food supply, endangering the public. According to USDA’s own figures, the inspector ranks nationwide had vacancy rates of ten percent or more in 2006-07. The current and former inspectors and other industry critics charged that the staff shortages are also resulting in the mistreatment of animals on the way to slaughter, and may have contributed to the recall announced earlier this week.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080222/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/slaughterhouse\\_abuse;\\_ylt=AuYnSs6MWMXuSe7wUsvuLLIG2ocA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080222/ap_on_re_us/slaughterhouse_abuse;_ylt=AuYnSs6MWMXuSe7wUsvuLLIG2ocA)

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## **Water Sector**

18. *February 21, Lodi News-Sentinel* – (California) **City readies for \$7.5 million sewage line repair.** The city of Lodi, California, will begin repairing more than four miles of its main sewage pipeline Monday. After decades of handling countless gallons of effluent and its resulting hydrogen sulfide, the concrete pipe has fallen into disrepair, said the city’s spokesman. The city was aware of corrosion along the pipe, but not the extent of the wear, until recent months. The California Water Quality Control Board received a complaint last December about “significant leaks” from two collection pipes, and ordered the city to investigate and remedy the matter. Emergency repairs were made, though no sewage appeared to have leaked from the pipes following a city evaluation. The spokesman noted the corrosion formed on top of the pipes, where noxious gases had worn away the concrete. He said sewage was not “jumping out of the pipes.” The city had faced up to \$1,000 in fines per day if it had not responded to the water board’s requests.

Source: [http://www.lodinews.com/articles/2008/02/21/news/5\\_regional\\_080221.txt](http://www.lodinews.com/articles/2008/02/21/news/5_regional_080221.txt)

19. *February 21, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Ind. governor signs regional water pact.** Indiana’s governor has signed a measure that allows Indiana to join a regional compact intended to prevent water-hungry states from tapping into the Great Lakes. The General Assembly had approved the bill that protects water from being siphoned out of the Great



Lakes watershed to drought-stricken states or areas that need water to continue their growth. The governor said Indiana was the first among the eight states bordering the five Great Lakes to sign the measure into law. Indiana encompasses parts of both the Lake Michigan and Lake Erie watersheds. The compact instructs the Great Lakes states to regulate water use and adopt conservation plans – rules that could affect everything from sewage treatment to auto manufacturing. After all the affected states enact it, Congress must ratify it. The Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec have approved separate but similar agreements.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/fn/5559266.html>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

20. *February 22, Voice of America News* – (International) **Indonesia resumes sharing of bird flu samples.** Indonesia sent a dozen bird flu samples to a World Health Organization laboratory this week, the first time it has done so in more than a year. Health Ministry officials say they shipped the samples to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. Indonesia stopped sending its virus samples to the WHO because it wanted assurances that poor and developing nations would be allowed access to affordable vaccines developed from their samples. The government has been in talks with the WHO to create a new virus-sharing system. Health Ministry officials say the samples sent to the CDC laboratory are for diagnostic purposes only.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-02-22-voa16.cfm>

21. *February 21, ABC News* – (National) **When the flu vaccine just doesn't work.** Federal health officials who met in Maryland Thursday were already preparing for the next flu season, which starts in the fall. They said they hoped the three viruses they will target in a new vaccine will be more effective than this year's batch. In just five weeks, this year's government "influenza map" has exploded with widespread flu activity now reported in almost every state. In Raleigh, North Carolina, almost half the students at one school are out sick. So many teachers had the flu, officials considered canceling classes. In Placenta, California, influenza is spreading through whole neighborhoods and families. "It's a little bit unusual for so many states to be involved with influenza, seriously, simultaneously," said a doctor at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center said. "It usually moves across the country in stages." The widespread activity is due to the fact that this year's flu shot is only effective against about 40 percent of the flu strains now in the U.S. Each year, health officials try to predict months in advance which of the thousands of strains circling the globe will be coming to America. They use a web of more than 80 labs to identify which strains pose the biggest threat and then target them in a vaccine. This is the first time they have completely reformulated the flu vaccine in more than 20 years.

Source: <http://www.abcnews.go.com/WN/story?id=4326711&page=1>

## **Government Facilities Sector**

22. *February 22, BBC* – (International) **U.S. embassy in Belgrade attacked.** Several hundred protesters attacked the U.S. and other embassies on February 23 in Serbia's capital in anger at Western support for Kosovo's independence. The United Nations Security Council condemned the attacks. The violence followed a peaceful rally by at least 150,000 people in the city. Later about 1,000 protesters smashed their way into the U.S. embassy, throwing flares through the window while others scaled walls to rip down the U.S. flag. At the time there appeared to be no police protecting the embassy, but riot police later intervened, firing tear gas. The fires raged for half an hour, and when firemen finally managed to get inside the building they found a charred body. The body has not been identified, though U.S. officials said all embassy staff of U.S. nationality had been accounted for. The White House spokesman said the embassy had been "attacked by thugs" and that Serbian police had not done enough to stop them. The State Department spokesman said the U.S. had warned the Serbian president and foreign minister that it would hold them personally responsible for further damage. He added that the protesters had entered the chancellery, but had not breached the embassy's secure area. Protest rallies were also held in the Bosnian Serb republic and there were unconfirmed reports of injuries as several hundred protesters clashed with police outside the U.S. consulate in Banja Luka.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/7256158.stm>

23. *February 22, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **OSBI looks into possible chemical weapon plot.** A 20-year-old man threatened to carry out a chemical weapon attack on two Oklahoma high schools, police said Thursday. Officials with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation arrested an Anadarko man late Thursday afternoon on a complaint of initiating a terrorism hoax. Officials said a search of his property did not reveal any physical evidence. According to witnesses, the man was overheard threatening to carry out a chemical weapon attack at an Anadarko school before traveling to Lawton schools to do the same. Witnesses told authorities that the man had talked about a secondary plan to set fire to the Anadarko police department. Both Lawton and Chickasha school districts were locked down as a result of the threat and had extra security. School officials at Cameron University in Lawton and in nearby Cache, Elgin, and Fletcher also tightened campus access.

Source: <http://www.koco.com/news/15371764/detail.html>

24. *February 21, Associated Press* – (California) **UCLA seeks restraining order against 'terrorist' animal rights activists.** The University of California went to court Thursday to try to keep animal rights activists away from University of California, Los Angeles employees who say they have been threatened because of their research. The University of California's Board of Regents filed suit in Superior Court in Santa Monica on Thursday, seeking a temporary restraining order and permanent injunctions keeping activists away from the researchers, the university spokesman said. The suit specifically requests restraining orders and injunctions against the Animal Liberation Front, the Animal Liberation Brigade, the UCLA Primate Freedom Project, and five protesters believed to be affiliated with those groups. A spokesman for the Animal Liberation

Press Office said any pickets named in the suit have a constitutional right to protest. As for the underground protesters, he said they would not be intimidated by the lawsuit. The school has been cooperating with the FBI and the Los Angeles Joint Terrorism Task Force in investigating the threats. A combined \$170,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,331751,00.html>

25. *February 21, Bay City News* – (California) **East Bay student arrested for bringing homemade bomb to school.** An Acalanes High School student was arrested Thursday after he said he accidentally brought a homemade bomb to school, a police officer from Lafayette, California, said. The 15-year-old boy told police that he forgot the bomb was in his pocket when he got ready for school this morning and inadvertently brought the device onto campus. Sometime between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m., the boy realized he had the bomb with him and immediately gave it to his teacher “because he didn’t want to get in trouble,” the officer said. The teacher notified authorities and the Walnut Creek bomb squad was brought in to disarm the bomb. The boy was arrested and released to his parents. Nobody was hurt during the incident and police do not believe the boy had any intention of detonating the bomb, which was small and equipped with a fuse. However, they also do not know why the boy built the bomb. According to the officer, investigators believe the device would have worked and could have created an explosion large enough to injure more than one person.

Source: <http://www.nbc11.com/news/15372559/detail.html?rss=bay&psp=news>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

26. *February 21, Nevada Daily Mail* – (Nevada) **Emergency responders now have access to new mapping system.** Mapping of all of Vernon County’s roads is completed and that information is now available for the Nevada Police Department dispatchers when they send emergency services personnel on calls anywhere in the county. In addition to developing new Vernon County road maps, Vernon County’s Geographic Information System technician told members of the Vernon County Local Emergency Planning Committee Wednesday that he has also generated other layers of data that can be overlaid on the road system to show a variety of useful information. For example, he said that he can make maps showing the roads broken down by townships, others showing the boundaries of each school district, or zip codes. These maps can then be overlaid on maps showing elevations or 1983 flood data. He said that when he is finished with this, every house in the county will be given an address that matches with the information in the E-911 system. When he has generated the GIS coordinates for every house in the county he will generate an address for each of those houses. He said that when everything is completed, each emergency response agency will be able to attach specific information to each location that they would find useful. For example, people on oxygen, people with special needs, the presence of hazardous materials, or any other information that would be beneficial when responding to a particular location for an emergency.

Source: <http://www.nevadadailymail.com/story/1313116.html>

## **Information Technology**

27. *February 22, Internet News* – (International) **Yo quiero antivirus. Malware goes multilingual.** Cybercriminals are turning their targets on the growing markets around the world, creating localized content in native languages or targeting specific interests of that nation. That is the main takeaway from McAfee Avert Labs global malware trends Sage report, called “One Internet, Many Worlds.” For the longest time, Americans and English-speakers were the targets, but the crooks are going global. The growth of emerging markets like BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) and EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa) has served to make them targets as well. “Two years ago, we couldn’t have had this conversation,” a security research and communications manager for McAfee’s Avert Labs, told InternetNews.com. “Most malware and spam was 95 to 98 percent English, directed at people who speak English. Now international malware is six to seven percent of the total instead of one to two percent, and it’s growing.” With 23 languages in the European Union alone, McAfee’s researchers found that cybercriminals are either hiring locally in different nations or swapping code written in different languages so they can target specific countries. The rise in international malware is just a logical follow on to the growth in international markets. The problem is only growing. At the start of the year, McAfee identified around 528 new pieces of malware per day. By the end of 2008, it expects to see 750 new pieces per day.

Source:

<http://www.internetnews.com/security/article.php/3729626/Yo+Quiero+Antivirus+Malware+Goes+Multilingual.htm>

28. *February 21, Electronic Frontier Foundation* – (National) **Research team finds security flaw in popular disk encryption technologies.** A team including the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), Princeton University, and other researchers have found a major security flaw in several popular disk encryption technologies that leaves encrypted data vulnerable to attack and exposure. An EFF Staff Technologist and a member of the research team said “This new class of vulnerabilities shows it is not a sure thing. Whether your laptop is stolen, or you simply lose track of it for a few minutes at airport security, the information inside can still be read by a clever attacker.” The researchers cracked several widely used disk encryption technologies, including Microsoft’s BitLocker, Apple’s FileVault, TrueCrypt, and dm-crypt. These “secure” disk encryption systems are supposed to protect sensitive information if a computer is stolen or otherwise accessed. However, in a paper and video published on the Internet on Thursday, the researchers show that data is vulnerable because encryption keys and passwords stored in a computer’s temporary memory – or RAM – do not disappear immediately after losing power. Laptops are particularly vulnerable to this attack, especially when they are turned on but locked, or in a “sleep” or “hibernation” mode entered when the laptop’s cover is shut. Even though the machines require a password to unlock the screen, the encryption keys are already located in the RAM, which provides an opportunity for attackers with malicious intent. The research released Thursday shows that these attacks are likely to be effective against many other disk encryption

systems because these technologies have many architectural features in common. Servers with encrypted hard drives are also vulnerable. The researchers have submitted the paper for publication and it is currently undergoing review.

Source: <http://www.eff.org/press/archives/2008/02/21-0>

### 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: <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

29. *February 21, TechWorld.com* – (National) **Researchers figure out how to crack GSM phone security.** Two enterprising researchers claim to have figured out a way to eavesdrop on calls made using GSM mobile phones, cracking open its much-vaunted encryption. According to the two men who presented the technique at the Black Hat security conference in Washington this week, GSM calls can now be recorded over long distances and cracked open in half an hour using only \$1,000 worth of field-programmable gate array-aided computer equipment and a frequency scanner. Although GSM's 64-bit A5 stream cipher has been theoretically vulnerable for some time, this is the first time anyone has demonstrated a way of doing it without investing in expensive, specialized equipment and without it taking years. According to one of the men, spend \$100,000 on hardware and the crack can be done in only 30 seconds using massively parallel processing technology. His company, Pico Computing Inc., is now developing the fast version to sell to agencies such as law enforcement, but plans to give away the slower version for free. GSM is used all over the world by mobile phone companies, and is used in the U.S. by several networks, most notably AT&T and T-Mobile. It is considered to be secure enough that even criminals use it, simply cycling phones to avoid the theoretical risk of being tracked.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=mobile\\_and\\_wireless&articleId=9063899&taxonomyId=15&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=mobile_and_wireless&articleId=9063899&taxonomyId=15&intsrc=kc_top)

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

30. *February 22, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Lots of damage, no deaths in Nev. quake.** A powerful earthquake damaged hundreds of homes, toppled chimneys and reduced part of a historical district to rubble. No one was killed and no serious injuries were reported after the magnitude-6.0 quake jolted the high desert town at 6:16 a.m. Thursday and rumbled across much of the West. County commissioners declared a state of emergency in Wells and the town of about 1,600 was closed to all but residents, according to the

Nevada Highway Patrol. Almost all the 700 residential structures in town had some damage, said a state spokesman at the scene. A spokesman for the Nevada Division of Emergency Management said crews were inspecting roads, bridges and dams for structural damage.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080222/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/nevada\\_quake;\\_ylt=AqlCJrLjQCR9OURLg\\_mk8JFG2ocA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080222/ap_on_re_us/nevada_quake;_ylt=AqlCJrLjQCR9OURLg_mk8JFG2ocA)

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

31. *February 22, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **U.S. calls for changes to forest drilling plan.** The U.S. Forest Service has ordered the Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania to redo the controversial oil and natural gas drilling sections of its new ten-year management plan, saying the plan fails to assess the cumulative effects of the drilling and does not comply with federal law. The decision was hailed yesterday by environmental groups that contend that local U.S. Forest Service managers have failed to regulate the increased level of drilling in the state's only national forest. The U.S. Forest Service decision found that the public was not given an opportunity to review and comment on the plan's final oil and gas development rules as required by federal law. The management plan, adopted a year ago, cost the U.S. Forest Service millions of dollars to develop and took more than five years to write. The decision settles 80 appeals filed about drilling in the forest by environmental groups, recreation groups, and the timber and oil and gas industries. Well drilling, spurred by higher prices for both oil and gas, has ballooned in recent years. The 8,000 active wells in the 500,000-acre forest – including more than 2,000 drilled last year – total more than in all other national forests combined. Drilling in the Allegheny National Forest is possible because the federal government, in 1923, bought surface rights for the forest land in Elk, Forest, McKean, and Warren counties but not the underlying mineral rights. As a result, oil companies own the minerals under 95 percent of the forest.

Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08053/859501-85.stm>

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## **Dams Sector**

32. *February 22, Alamogordo Daily News* – (New Mexico) **Local dam most at-risk in state.** The Otero Soil and Water Conservation District is asking for the county's help in conducting engineering studies on two dams, one of which has been deemed the most dangerous dam in New Mexico. The chairman of the district told the Otero County Commission at its regular meeting Thursday that three dams under the district's control were reviewed by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in 2002. Two of the dams, in Curtis and Graveyard canyons, were determined to be in bad shape. The Graveyard dam is silted up all the way to the drainage outlet; the Curtis dam – the most dangerous one in the state – is also filled with silt and debris. The dams were built in the 1950s, the chairman said. "We didn't build them, we only fell heir to them," he said. He



said a three- to four- inch rain in the right place could overwhelm the dams, endangering residents in the lower reaches of the Rio Peñasco. Two RV parks are below the Curtis dam. The State Engineer’s office and NRCS have asked the district to undertake engineering studies of the dams. There are three options – breach the dams and rebuild them, repair the dams, or install early warning alert systems.

Source: [http://www.alamogordonews.com/news/ci\\_8330064](http://www.alamogordonews.com/news/ci_8330064)

33. **February 21, KNXV 15 Phoenix** – (Arizona) **Navajo Nation: Threat of dam break, evacuations advised.** In Arizona, a man-made dam on the Navajo Nation is in danger of breaking and an emergency alert has been issued. The Greasewood Springs Chapter of the Navajo Nation issued the alert Wednesday night for residents living near a dam six miles southwest of the Chapter House. The alert also advised livestock be evacuated from the area down through the Pueblo Colorado Wash Valley. The path of the dam spill would be through several communities to Joseph City and The Little Colorado River. The Navajo Nation has 14 dams that are federally funded through the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Source: [http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content\\_id=56157a94-ab0f-4b89-b597-67eb40799846](http://www.abc15.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=56157a94-ab0f-4b89-b597-67eb40799846)

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## **Contact DHS**

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

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

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