



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 26 January 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Spokane Spokesman-Review reports that Latah County, Idaho Sheriff Deputies have arrested two juveniles in connection with at least 20 reports of vehicles being hit with gunfire along Highway 8. (See item [25](#))
- According to the Washington Post, three large car bombs rocked well-known Baghdad hotels on Monday, killing at least 36 people. (See item [56](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *January 25, Reuters* – (International) **PNG gunbattle over LNG project kills 11 people.** A gunbattle between tribal gangs arguing over a share in a \$15 billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Papua New Guinea killed 11 people and destroyed 250 houses, local media reported on January 25. Police said details of the gunbattle, in which many were also wounded, were unclear because the area was accessible only by helicopter. They cast doubt about reports the fighting was linked to the ExxonMobil LNG project. “As for the 11 people killed, I cannot confirm because we

are yet to visit the area. It definitely doesn't have anything to do with the LNG project," Southern Highlands Provincial Police Commander told Radio NZ International. Four heavily armed gangs began fighting at the weekend in the village of Pawale in the Southern Highlands, forcing hundreds of women and children to flee, said the Post Courier newspaper. The Post Courier said the gunbattle was believed to be in retaliation for a previous killing that happened in the lead up to LNG benefit-sharing negotiations in December 2009. The tribes affected by the pipeline spent weeks negotiating a deal with the Papua New Guinea government but some believe they have missed out or were excluded from the talks. The planned LNG project will supply gas to fuel Asia's growth for decades. The biggest risk to its development is the building of a 435 mile pipeline from the Southern Highlands to the capital Port Moresby, across mountainous rainforests owned by various tribes renowned for bloody feuds.
Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKSGE6000AJ20100125>

2. *January 24, Reuters* – (Texas) **Texas waterway remains closed after oil spill.** The Sabine-Neches Waterway, that supplies oil to four Texas refineries representing 6.5 percent of U.S. capacity, remained shut on January 24 as crews cleaned up oil spilled in a ship collision on January 23. The U.S. Coast Guard said the shipping lane would remain shut until the spill was cleaned up. On January 24, 13 ships were waiting to exit the waterway and 13 were waiting to enter. The four refineries, three in Port Arthur, Texas, and one in Beaumont, Texas, have not reported any shutdowns since a gash was torn in the side of the double-hulled Eagle Otome tanker the morning of January 23 by a barge. Texas officials said the spill of 460,000 gallons of crude was the state's biggest since 1991. The Texas Land Commissioner said it was unclear exactly how long the cleanup would take. "But I think it's a matter of days not weeks," he said. AET Tanker Holdings, which owns the Eagle Otome tanker, is paying for the cleanup. The spill triggered a voluntary evacuation recommendation to residents living near the port. About 12 people evacuated. The 807-foot Eagle Otome was bound with a cargo of crude to Exxon Mobil Corp's 344,500 barrel per day refinery in Beaumont, Exxon said. A Valero Energy Corp spokesman said the company's 310,000 bpd Port Arthur refinery had offered emergency supplies to the clean-up crews. The collision between the southbound barge and the northbound tanker occurred near the Valero refinery location. Investigators from the Coast Guard along with the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board are probing the cause of the collision.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2416149620100125>
3. *January 24, Associated Press* – (National) **Ice storm leaves 20,000 without power in Plains.** High winds Sunday hampered the efforts of repair crews trying to restore power to thousands of people in the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Iowa who lost service during icy weather last week. The South Dakota Rural Electric Association general manager said some 7,600 customers remained without power statewide late Sunday afternoon, while North Dakota's homeland security director estimated outages were still affecting the service of almost 5,100 customers in that state. In Nebraska, about 250 Northeast Nebraska Public Power District customers were still without service, according to the general manager. The Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives' Web site reported more than 9,000 customers were without power Sunday. A winter storm that first hit

the region on Tuesday brought a mix of freezing rain and snow that snapped utility poles and toppled power lines and communications towers. The majority of outages in the region struck as heavy winds swept through late Friday and early Saturday. South Dakota's Cheyenne River Indian Reservation was without electricity and water Saturday after power outages left the water-intake system inoperable. National Guard crews were setting up large generators for the reservation Sunday. The director of industry relations for the South Dakota Telecommunications Association said portable generators were keeping the telephone systems running but that blizzard-like conditions threatened to overwhelm them. Utilities Cam Wal Electric Cooperative, FEM Electric Association and Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative would have more than 300 workers coping with outages in South Dakota by late Sunday, assisted by members of the National Guard and power-line students from Mitchell Technical Institute. In Nebraska, 4,500 Northeast Nebraska Public Power District customers lost power Friday when high-voltage lines iced over, and while service was quickly restored for most, some 250 in remote areas remained without power Sunday afternoon.

Source: http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/article_286726fc-0936-11df-bb05-001cc4c03286.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *January 25, WSAZ 3 Huntington, Charleston* – (West Virginia) **DuPont worker dies after chemical leak, 'safety pause' underway.** A 58-year-old DuPont employee passed away Sunday. He was transported to the hospital on Saturday after being exposed to phosgene from a leaking transfer hose at the Belle site. DuPont officials say that he worked as an operator and was an integral part of the Site Emergency Response team for much of his career. He put in 32 years of service with the plant. Phosgene is used to make plastics and pesticides and can damage the respiratory system. The plant continues to be shut down as a result of several leaks in a short period of time. "The purpose of the safety stand down is to reinforce the seriousness of this situation and maintain the site's focus on safe work, consistent with DuPont's core values. The site is undergoing a thorough investigation of the units involved in the incidents," said DuPont's Belle plant manager.

Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/charleston/headlines/82516382.html>

5. *January 25, Catawba Valley Citizen* – (North Carolina) **Four alarm fire at local chemical plant leaves dozens unemployed.** Members of the Longview Fire Department were called to Tailored Chemical Products, Inc & Tailored Foam, Inc. around 8pm on January 24 night after citizens nearby reported an explosion at the company. The company produces commercial glue and foam insulation used in construction. Officials say a handful of employees was inside the facility working when the explosion occurred. None of the employees were injured. The exact cause is still unknown, however one employee told us that he believed it was related to a transformer that malfunctioned inside the facility. Firefighters quickly arrived and began accessing the scene. They learned the facility housed extremely flammable

chemicals, including ethanol and methane. They were concerned that the room housing these chemicals would be exposed to the fire and risk a huge explosion. Longview Fire Department requested the assistance of numerous nearby fire departments including Hickory, Icard, Lovelady and Mountain View Fire Departments. They were able to logistically coordinate their response and keep the fire contained to the portion of the building not containing the explosive chemicals. Additional homes were also evacuated, as officials were concerned about the fire spreading or the toxicity of the smoke. Firefighters and hazardous material crews will be on scene all night to watch for hot spots and flareups. The Catawba County Fire Marshal's office was on the scene and will be investigating the fire.

Source: <http://www.catawbavalleycitizen.com/2010/01/25/four-alarm-fire-at-local-chemical-plant-leaves-dozens-unemployed/>

6. *January 25, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **Firefighters battle five-alarm blaze at chemical plant in Sayreville.** Firefighters from 13 towns raced to the Hercules Inc. property on the evening of January 24 to battle a five-alarm blaze at an abandoned building there, authorities said. Investigators late on January 24, were just beginning to probe the cause and origin of the fire at the chemical manufacturer's complex on South Minisink Avenue, Sayreville fire chief said. A South River firefighter was taken from the scene with a back injury. Crews raced to the site about 6 p.m. for a fire at an abandoned two-story administration building, arriving to find flames coming from the second floor, the Dunne and Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management spokesman said. Some 85 firefighters responded to help battle the blaze, which forced the crews to work from outside and eventually caused the roof to collapse. "There were flames coming out of the roof, every window," he said. Due to a limited water supply in the area, county and borough fire officials called in a series of tanker trucks to help douse the flames, he said. Including the tankers, 39 pieces of fire apparatus were at the scene from 13 municipalities, along with Monmouth and Somerset counties. The fire, which could be seen from the road, was declared under control in about two hours. Fire crews were still at the scene as of 10:30 p.m. as investigators started to search for what started the blaze, the chief said. Up until July 2004, the company produced nitrocellulose, an explosive substance that is a major ingredient in the manufacture of nail polish, printing ink and furniture lacquer, and is also an ingredient in gunpowder. Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100125/NEWS/100125002/1007/NEWS03>

7. *January 24, Cherry Hill Courier-Post* – (New Jersey) **Fire rips through Gloucester City chemical plant.** A five-alarm fire erupted early morning on January 25 at the Am-Spec Chemical Corporation warehouse in Gloucester City, according to authorities. The blaze broke out at the three-story building, located off Water Street, around 5 a.m. and was placed under control an hour later. Crews from the surrounding area, including a Philadelphia fire boat and Hazmat units from Cherry Hill, were called to the scene of the blaze. No injuries were reported. The plant is located in a largely industrial section of Gloucester City.

Source:

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20100124/NEWS01/100124005/1006/news01>

8. *January 24, Nashua Telegraph* – (New Hampshire) **Four people injured in explosion at industrial plant.** Four people were injured, two seriously, in an accident Saturday morning at an industrial plant on Spit Brook Road, according to city fire officials. A small explosion occurred inside Worthen Industries, said a deputy fire chief. It happened when workers were making welding repairs to an industrial process, the chief said. Two of the injured workers sustained lacerations and burns deemed to be serious. Trauma teams were activated at St. Joseph Hospital and Southern New Hampshire Medical Center, where each of the injured workers were taken. From there, the two workers were flown by helicopter to Boston hospitals. According to the company's Web site, Worthen Industries has 14 business groups that develop adhesives and coatings for industrial products.
Source: <http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/news/557558-196/four-people-injured-in-explosion-at-nashua.html>

For another story, see item [29](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

9. *January 25, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Minn. House committee explores nuke waste concerns.** Minnesota lawmakers have been debating whether to allow consideration of new nuclear power plants. Now they are revisiting concerns over what to do with nuclear waste they already have. The House Commerce and Labor Committee planned Monday to review legislation that would redirect some energy fees and establish the Minnesota Nuclear Waste Storage Commission. Its role would be to address safety concerns around waste from two existing nuclear plants in Red Wing and Monticello. The federal government has been slow to open a promised waste dump in Nevada, leaving questions over spent fuel. Meanwhile, some legislators are pushing to lift a moratorium that bars regulators from authorizing new nuclear plants as a way to feed the power grid.
Source: <http://www.wqow.com/Global/story.asp?S=11874153>
10. *January 25, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Salem 2 nuclear plant goes back on line.** Normal operations have resumed at a New Jersey nuclear power plant that was temporarily shut down for repairs. The Salem 2 plant — one of three nuclear reactors on Salem County's Artificial Island — automatically went off line at 6:20 p.m. Thursday after low water levels were recorded inside a steam generator. PSEG Nuclear, which operates all three plants, said the problem was caused by the failure of a feedwater pump that supplies water to the steam generator. The generator and pump are on the non-nuclear side of the plant. Salem 2 went back online around 6:15 a.m. Saturday, officials said, and was returned to full power later in the day. The two other plants at the site — Salem 1 and Hope Creek — were not affected by the pump failure and continue to operate at full power.
Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_95f98398-09a6-11df-a115-001cc4c002e0.html

11. *January 23, RIA Novosti* – (International) **Brazilian police discover 450 kg of contraband uranium ore.** Police in the north Brazilian state of Amapa have unearthed a cache with 450 kg of enriched uranium ore. The operation to seize radioactive material was a result of four-month work by investigators, who found a bag of pitchblende on Friday in a remote area of tropical rainforest. Pitchblende, or uraninite, is an extremely radioactive mineral used as a major component for the production of fuel for nuclear power plants and nuclear arms. An investigation is underway. Brazil's nuclear capabilities are considered the most advanced in Latin America. The country runs its sole nuclear power plant, Angra, with two reactors, and a third is under construction.
Source: <http://en.rian.ru/world/20100123/157658954.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *January 24, Lompoc Record* – (California) **Flaw to delay missile test 7 months.** A hardware problem on a Minuteman 3 missile at Vandenberg Air Force Base led to a seven-month delay for a test that now will not occur before mid-June, officials said. Confirmation of the long delay comes as engineers continue to analyze the problem and suggest repairs. Vandenberg officials announced two days before the planned November 18 launch that the missile test's postponement would "allow for the completion of ground testing prior to launching." However, in response to questions submitted this month, Air Force officials eventually confirmed that some of sort of problem with the weapon led to the postponement. "All that can be said at this time is that the problem was on-board the missile, and the problem is being actively analyzed," officials said in a written statement. "Once the analysis is complete more information may be available. The analysis will focus on all aspects of the missile sub-systems and potentially include suggestions for improvements in hardware and software. The results of the analysis may well require continued protection in accordance with established classification procedures." The Minuteman missile's problem was discovered after the weapon was "built up" for launch from Vandenberg, during routine pre-launch system tests. Vandenberg regularly tests Minuteman 3 missiles to gather data on the weapon system's accuracy and reliability. Some 450 Minuteman 3 missiles sit on alert in and around North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana, but no assessment has been made about whether the problem affects the entire arsenal. "The Minuteman ICBM is a proven asset with high reliability; our testing serves to ensure that the high reliability of the weapon system is maintained," Air Force officials said.
Source: http://www.lompocrecord.com/news/local/military/article_0ba64a2e-08b5-11df-85b5-001cc4c002e0.html

13. *January 22, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **NOAA may prohibit Navy sonar testing at marine mammal ‘hot spots’**. Marine mammal “hot spots” in areas including Southern California’s coastal waters may become off limits to testing of a type of Navy sonar linked to the deaths of whales under a plan announced the week of January 18 by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. NOAA also called for development of a system for estimating the “comprehensive sound budget for the oceans,” which could help reduce human sources of noise — vessel traffic, sonar, and construction activities — that degrade the environment in which sound-sensitive species communicate. A senior policy analyst for the Natural Resources Defense Council said the plans were prompted by rules developed during the final days of the last Presidential Administration that allow Navy sonar testing and training along the Atlantic Coast, the Gulf of Mexico, around Hawaii, and the waters off Southern California through 2013.
Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2010/01/marine-mammal-hot-spots-may-become-offlimits-to-the-navys-testing-of-sonar.html>

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *January 23, Reuters* – (International) **Europeans, Asians held in \$10 billion bank scam: report**. Abu Dhabi police have arrested seven men for plotting to defraud the UAE central bank of 7.2 billion euros (\$10.17 billion) using false documents, the state news agency WAM said on January 23. It said the suspects, three Europeans and four Asians, had presented forged documents from a commercial bank in Europe purporting that the central bank of the United Arab Emirates owed the funds representing the family investments of the gang’s leader. The suspects also had a power of attorney from their leader authorizing the withdrawals, the agency said. The arrests were made in coordination with the central bank’s anti-money laundering unit, a spokesman said, adding that the suspects had denied the charges of forging documents and attempted fraud.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE60M1GS20100123>
15. *January 23, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Five banks closed on Jan. 22**. Five banks were closed by state and federal regulators on January 22. The largest of the failed institutions was Charter Bank, a \$1.2 billion bank based in Santa Fe, New Mexico. These latest closings now raise to 10 the total number of failed institutions so far in 2010. The banks closed were Premier American Bank in Miami, Florida, Bank of Leeton in Leeton, Missouri, Charter Bank in Santa Fe, New Mexico, Evergreen Bank in Seattle, Washington, and Columbia River Bank in The Dalles, Oregon. The FDIC estimates that the total cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) for the five bank failures will be \$531.7 million.
Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2110
16. *January 22, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **No bomb found at Edmond bank after arrest**. A man who went into an Oklahoma Fidelity Bank branch in Edmond this

morning was bluffing when he used what he called a “detonator” to rob the bank, police said. A 52-year-old transient from Texas was arrested within 15 minutes of the 9:30 a.m. robbery near Second Street and Bryant Avenue, a Edmond police spokeswoman said. His name has not been released. Based on the man’s threat, Edmond police evacuated the bank and swept the building for any suspicious devices. Shortly after 11 a.m., a bomb technician wearing heavy armor exited the building and flashed a thumbs-up gesture, which gave the-go ahead for detectives and FBI agents to go in and conduct their investigation. The spokeswoman said she did not know what the device actually was that was used to rob the bank, but she said bank employees described it as some sort of cylinder wrapped in aluminum foil and then wrapped in a napkin.

Source: http://www.newsok.com/no-bomb-found-at-edmond-bank-after-arrest/article/3433939?custom_click=headlines_widget

17. *January 21, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (New York; Nevada) **Bronx man pleads guilty in Manhattan Federal Court to bank robberies in New York and Las Vegas.** A bank robber pleaded guilty on January 21 in Manhattan federal court to robbing banks in New York and Las Vegas. Beginning in March 2009, the defendant robbed six banks in New York City and Las Vegas, where the defendant was apprehended on June 17, 2009. After robbing four banks in New York, he traveled to Las Vegas, where he robbed two additional banks before being caught by local police. He robbed a Citibank, a Sovereign Bank, a Chase Bank, and a Capital One Bank in Manhattan; and a Nevada State Bank and a Citibank in Las Vegas. During the robbery of the Capital One Bank in Manhattan, the defendant placed a written note on a bank teller’s counter which read: “Give me all the money, don’t give me no ink, don’t pull the button.” When the teller handed over some of the cash from the drawer, the defendant demanded more, saying, “You have 15 seconds to give me all you have or else I’m going to start shooting everyone in here.”

Source: <http://newyork.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/nyfo012110.htm>

18. *January 21, U.S. Government Accountability Office* – (National) **Improvements needed in National Flood Insurance program’s financial controls and oversight.** Due to the federal government’s role as guarantor, floods impose an enormous potential financial burden on the federal government. Consequently, decision makers at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the Congress need accurate and timely financial information to assess the effectiveness of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This report assesses whether controls in place during the 2005 to 2007 time frame were effective in providing accountability and reliable financial reporting for NFIP transactions; whether effective oversight structures were in place during this time frame to monitor NFIP financial activity; and whether recent and planned actions to improve controls are likely to address identified financial control weaknesses. Weaknesses in internal controls impaired FEMA’s ability to maintain effective transaction-level accountability. These weaknesses limited FEMA’s ability to assure accurate NFIP financial data during the 3-year period from fiscal year 2005 through 2007, which included the financial activity related to the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes.

Second, incomplete BSA- level premium data files (lacking key information such as insureds' names and addresses) prevented an assessment of the reliability of reported NFIP premium amounts. Lastly, FEMA's financial reporting process uses summary data that is overly reliant on error-prone manual data entry. GAO made seven recommendations to FEMA to improve NFIP financial management controls and oversight. They include modifying the financial reporting process to reduce the risk of errors and improving procedures to strengthen oversight.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/htext/d1066.html>

19. *January 21, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Florida) **Florida man pleads guilty in stock scheme that swindled millions from investors.** A Florida man pleaded guilty Thursday to his role in a \$20 million stock fraud and money laundering scheme, admitting that he cost public investors over \$1 million in losses, a U.S. attorney announced. The 61 year old defendant, of Sarasota, Florida, pleaded guilty before a U.S. district judge to a one-count Information that charges conspiracy to commit securities fraud, wire fraud, and money laundering. At his plea hearing, the defendant admitted that beginning in May 2002 and continuing through October 2005, he operated a sophisticated scheme, involving more than five co-conspirators, which used deceptive and manipulative practices in connection with the fraudulent issuance, purchase, and re-sale of shares of stock of Skylynx Communications, Inc. to defraud more than 50 victims. The company's stock was publicly traded on the Over the Counter Electronic Bulletin Board System (OTC Bulletin Board). The defendant admitted that he and his co-conspirators acquired ownership and control of a substantial number of Skylynx stock shares, without disclosing this ownership and control to the public. He further admitted that he and his co-conspirators paid undisclosed cash, free-trading Skylynx stock, and restricted Skylynx stock to securities brokers for purchasing Skylynx in their retail customers' accounts. For example, the defendant admitted that in July 2003, he caused 100,000 shares of Skylynx stock to be issued to a conspirator nominee as a kickback for the conspirator's role in manipulating the market for Skylynx stock.

Source: <http://newark.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/nk012110.htm>

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Transportation Sector

20. *January 25, Journal of Commerce* – (National) **NTSB wants recorders in locomotives.** The National Transportation Safety Board wants the federal government to “require audio and image recorders in the cabs of all locomotives,” after determining that a commuter train operator distracted by text messaging was at fault in a deadly 2008 crash. The safety agency only makes recommendations and cannot impose them, but its findings often prompt other agencies or Congress to order changes in industry behavior or equipment. It said while the commuter rail line already banned its locomotive engineers from using cell phones or other wireless devices while operating a train, “the privacy afforded by the locomotive cab, once the train leaves a station, makes it difficult for violations of operating rules to be discovered through ordinary

management supervision or efficiency testing.” Railroads have objected that this is an unfunded mandate from Congress that will cost freight and passenger rail systems billions of dollars to install. PTC is required for passenger railroads, freight carriers that share tracks with passenger trains and freight lines hauling the types of hazardous chemicals that can create poison clouds if released.

Source: <http://www.joc.com/node/416211>

21. *January 25, Bloomberg* – (International) **Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 737 crashes after takeoff from Beirut.** An Ethiopian Airlines Boeing Co. 737 with 90 people on board crashed into the Mediterranean Sea off Beirut after departing the Lebanese capital in stormy weather early this morning. Twenty-one bodies have been recovered and no survivors have been found, a Lebanese army Brigadier said in a phone interview. Search efforts are ongoing about 8 kilometers off the coast, with local military personnel being assisted by United Nations, French and British forces, he said. The passengers on flight ET409 included 51 Lebanese and 23 Ethiopians, the carrier said on its Web site. The eight crew members were all Ethiopian. Terrorism is unlikely to have been the cause of the crash, the Lebanese president said at a press conference in Beirut. Boeing is working with the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board to assist Lebanese authorities with the probe, a spokeswoman said. Addis Ababa-based Ethiopian Airlines, which is state owned, said it had sent investigators to the scene of the crash.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-01-25/ethiopian-airlines-boeing-737-crashes-after-takeoff-from-beirut.html>

22. *January 24, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Amtrak train derails in Fairfax County.** An Amtrak spokeswoman says a train heading to Florida derailed just outside Washington, causing several minor injuries and delaying the train for about four hours. An Amtrak spokeswoman says the train derailed about 8:30 p.m. Saturday in Fairfax County, Virginia and got underway again about 12:40 a.m. Sunday. She says several passengers and crew members suffered minor bumps and bruises. The train was not a regularly scheduled train, but a special train headed for West Palm Beach with 712 passengers and 15 crew.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1872078>

23. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Airliner forced to land after colliding with bird.** A collision with a large bird forced a United Airlines plane to return to Dulles International Airport in northern Virginia, the Federal Aviation Administration said Friday. An FAA spokeswoman said United Flight 915 sucked a large bird into the airliner’s right engine shortly after takeoff around 4:30 p.m. EST. She said the pilot quickly returned the plane to the airport and it landed safely. The spokeswoman said there were no injuries, but one runway was briefly closed so that it could be cleared of bird remains. A United spokeswoman said the plane was a Boeing 757-200 bound for San Francisco. She said the airline is still investigating the cause of the incident.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1871221>

24. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **United flight diverted to Denver after passenger tries to open the door mid-flight.** TSA officials have confirmed that United Airlines flight flying from Washington D.C. to Las Vegas has been diverted to Denver airport after a passenger tried to open an exterior door on the plane while it was airborne. An airport spokesman says that United Flight 223 was diverted to Denver at 5:10 p.m. Saturday, and the passenger has been taken into custody by the police waiting at the gate. The spokesman said that it is “virtually impossible” to open an exterior door in mid-flight. The passenger, crew members and other passengers were being questioned by the FBI. There were 129 passengers and 5 crew members on the flight. Source: <http://www.eturbonews.com/14001/united-flight-diverted-denver-after-passenger-tries-open-door-mi>
25. *January 22, Spokane Spokesman-Review* – (Idaho) **Teens jailed in sniper shootings.** Latah County Sheriff Deputies have arrested two juveniles in connection with at least 20 reports of vehicles being hit with gunfire along Highway 8 near Forks Road, just east of Helmer, Idaho. The shootings closed a portion of Highway 8 from milepost 29 to milepost 34, between Bovill and Deary, Friday afternoon. Police fielded multiple calls from people saying they had been shot at while driving in the area. Latah County Deputies and Idaho State Police set up a perimeter around the shooting scene and began to look for the suspects. Deputies found the spot where the teens had been shooting from and later arrested two juvenile boys. Source: <http://www.spokesman.com/blogs/hbo/2010/jan/22/kxly-teens-jailed-sniper-shootings/>

For more stories, see items [1](#) and [2](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

26. *January 24, KWTX 10 Waco* – (Texas) **Bomb squad sent to local post office to check out suspicious package.** The McLennan, Texas, County Sheriff’s Office bomb squad was dispatched to the U.S. Post Office on West Highway 6 Saturday after an employee discovered a suspicious package on top of a mailbox. The Post Office was closed down while the bomb squad used a robot to knock the package off of the mailbox. The return address was that of a local attorney whose secretary told police that the package containing a book was inadvertently left on top of the mailbox. Source: <http://www.kwtx.com/home/headlines/82551172.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *January 23, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (Rhode Island) **Rhode Island firm recalls Italian Sausage products due to possible salmonella contamination.** Daniele International Inc., an establishment with operations in Pascoag

and Mapleville, Rhode Island, is recalling approximately 1,240,000 pounds of ready-to-eat (RTE) varieties of Italian sausage products, including salami/salame, in commerce and potentially available to customers in retail locations in numerous states because they may be contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced. FSIS became aware of the problem during the course of an ongoing investigation of a multi-state outbreak of Salmonella serotype Montevideo illnesses. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), FSIS, state health and agriculture departments, and Daniele International are cooperating in this investigation. During the course of that investigation, a sample of product found in commerce was tested on behalf of a participating state department of health and found to contain Salmonella, which FSIS has a zero tolerance for in RTE products. The product tested was similar to products bought by customers who later became sick in the Montevideo investigation, but currently there is not a direct link. The Salmonella strain in the tested product does not appear to be the Montevideo strain of interest and further testing of the sample is ongoing at a state health partner laboratory. FSIS is continuing to work with the CDC, affected state public health partners, and the company on the investigation and will update the public on the progress of this investigation as information becomes available.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_006_2010_Release/index.asp

28. *January 22, Delaware News-Journal* – (Delaware) **Kent County copper caper ends in mud.** Two men are accused of stealing \$185,000 worth of copper wire from 13 farms since October at farms in the Magnolia, Milford, Camden, Dover, Harrington, and Felton areas of Kent County, Delaware. Some were hit more than once. At Winkler farm, where the thieves were caught, the first item to be taken was a couple thousand gallons of diesel fuel used to run irrigation engines. Also taken were a couple of radiators and parts off motors. Over time, the thieves got to copper in 29 of the irrigation towers, which cost about \$1,000 per tower to replace, the farm's owner said. Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20100122/NEWS01/1220337>

29. *January 22, Associated Press* – (Maine) **Ammonia leak creates problem in Portland, Maine.** Portland firefighters have evacuated a couple of streets as a precaution as emergency workers attempt to stop an ammonia leak at cold storage facility. A city spokeswoman says there was a small explosion on January 22 inside the Americold Logistics building, which was evacuated as ammonia filled the air. No one was hurt. She says firefighters and emergency responders are working to ventilate the building; neighbors were asked to either evacuate, or close their window and doors. Cheverus High School stayed open to provide a place for neighborhood residents to stay warm while awaiting the green light to return home. For now, it is unknown how much ammonia has leaked into the building. The building's refrigeration system is believed to contain 10,000 pounds of ammonia. Source: http://www.wgme.com/template/inews_wire/wires.regional.me/28d864dd-www.wgme.com.shtml

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Water Sector

30. *January 25, KNXV 15 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Water main break floods central Phoenix homes, businesses.** A water main break sent thousands of gallons of water flowing onto the street, flooding several central Phoenix homes and businesses on Sunday. The break happened around 10 a.m. Sunday morning near 3rd Avenue and McDowell Road. Crews from the water department could not find the valve to turn the water off, apparently because it had been paved over during road constriction along McDowell Rd. As a result, the water continued to bubble from the ground for more than 8 hours. Crews remained on the scene Sunday night, attempting to fix the break to the water main.

Source: <http://www.abc15.com/content/news/phoenixmetro/central/story/Water-main-break-floods-central-Phoenix-homes/SJSg1Mgo2E2v2WdMVIgc-w.csp>

31. *January 22, Jackson County Floridan* – (Florida) **Greenwood investigates possible lightning strike.** After Thursday’s severe storm, Greenwood, in particular, may be facing possible damage to the town’s water tower. Town officials are currently investigating a possible lightning strike that may have occurred early Thursday morning. A Greenwood official said in a phone interview Thursday that she could not confirm if lightning struck the water tower that morning, but it was possible. “Well, we do know that the tower’s alarm system went off around 7:30 p.m. Wednesday evening,” she said. “The alarm alerted us that there was an issue, and after investigating the matter we found that it had overflowed.” The overflow problem was due to a technical issue. The system did not shut the water flow valve off at the correct time, which lead to the water levels being higher than normal. “Really all it needed was a reset of the panel to allow the water levels and pressures to correct themselves,” she said. The overflow issue was easily and rapidly corrected, but the excess water did overflow onto the surrounding ground.

Source:

http://www2.jcfloridan.com/jcf/news/local/article/greenwood_investigates_possible_lightning_strike/124502/

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

32. *January 24, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Fire at medical clinic appears to be arson.** The Bush Airport Medical Clinic in northeast Harris County, Texas was burned and investigators say it looks like someone set fire to it on purpose. Crews boarded up store fronts and business owners swept away a mix of smoke residue and broken glass. “It was not a Molotov cocktail, but it was an intentionally set fire,” said a lieutenant with the Harris County Fire Marshal’s Office. Investigators say just before midnight Sunday, someone used kerosene or gasoline to set it on fire. Most of the fire was

confined to the waiting room and the reception area.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7236884>

33. *January 24, Reuters* – (National) **Fake forms of Glaxo diet drug can be dangerous: FDA.** Lab tests showed counterfeit versions of Glaxo’s pill Alli contained high levels of sibutramine, Food and Drug Administration officials said. Sibutramine is the active ingredient in Abbott Laboratories Inc’s prescription diet drug Meridia. “The amount of sibutramine in the counterfeit Alli poses a serious health risk to some individuals,” the head of the FDA’s drug unit, told reporters on a conference call. “A person taking the counterfeit Alli as directed would be exposed to twice the maximum prescription dose of sibutramine every day,” she said. The FDA warned earlier this week that sibutramine should not be used by people with a history of cardiovascular disease because it can raise the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Regulators in Europe concluded sibutramine was too risky and Abbott agreed to suspend sales there. The fake versions were sold on the Internet, including through online auction sites, FDA officials said. There is no evidence of counterfeit versions in stores, they said. The fake products were sold as 60-milligram, 120-count refill packages only, Glaxo said. The company said it was working with the FDA to have the counterfeits removed from online auction sites.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE60N00P20100124>

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Government Facilities Sector

34. *January 23, Mid Columbia Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Hanford not recommended for mercury storage.** The Department of Energy (DOE) is recommending that a commercial storage site in Texas be used to store up to 11,000 tons of the nation’s excess mercury rather than sending it to the Hanford nuclear reservation. Hanford has been one of seven sites across the nation considered for mercury storage after the Mercury Export Ban Act of 2008 prohibited the export of mercury beginning in 2013 and required the Department of Energy to have facilities ready to manage and store mercury generated in the United States. Storing the mercury at Hanford long-term has been opposed by the Tri-City Development Council, which wants Hanford to be cleaned up and become available for other uses, such as clean energy research and production. The state of Washington, while supporting the intent of the Mercury Export Ban Act, has been concerned about the possible impacts on the environmental cleanup of Hanford if it is used for long-term mercury storage. A decision on where to store the mercury has not been made, but DOE has released a draft environmental study that concludes that Waste Control Specialists, west of Andrews, Texas, is the best option. Other sites considered include the Grand Junction Disposal Site in Colorado; the Idaho National Laboratory; Hawthorne Army Depot in Nevada; Kansas City Plant in Missouri; and the Savannah River Site in South Carolina. DOE will take comments on the draft study for 60 days and hold public meetings, which have yet to be scheduled. A final study is scheduled to be issued in the fall and then a decision will be made by DOE.
Source: http://www.tri-cityherald.com/kennewick_pasco_richland/story/873924.html

35. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Firefighter admits to leaving feces package.** Prosecutors say a suspicious package left outside the city hall of a small southwestern Washington town that contained feces was left by a disgruntled former firefighter. When the package was found November 6 outside the Woodland City hall addressed to to the mayor, local police called in the Portland bomb squad to investigate. It was not until the bomb squad destroyed the package that they found out the content inside. The Longview Daily News reports that the 62-year-old suspect admitted leaving the feces package. But court documents say that before admitting to it, the suspect blamed another firefighter for the incident. The suspect was charged Friday with making false statements to police and obstruction. Court documents say the suspect had a feud with the firefighter he originally blamed. The suspect was a firefighter for 37 years with the town’s fire department before he was fired for insubordination. Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_feces_package.html
36. *January 22, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Students return to CMU buildings after unspecified security threat.** Authorities said an unspecified “security and safety threat” led them to evacuate and search three buildings on the Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) campus Friday. Campus police, assisted by Pittsburgh officers, evacuated Wean, Doherty, and Hamerschlag halls just before 1 p.m. Police K-9 dogs and bomb squad units swept the buildings for two hours. It was not known how many students were evacuated. The buildings house physics, computing services, and electrical and computer engineering classrooms. “Any time we get notification of a threat, we take it seriously, and we go through all the steps we need to make sure it’s safe,” a university spokesman said. The spokesman said city police asked him not to identify the threat, and Pittsburgh police officials referred all questions to CMU. University officials alerted students and faculty members by text messages and e-mails, but only those who signed up for the message system received the alerts, the spokesman said. The university lifted the evacuation order at 3 p.m. and reopened the area around Frew Street. It was unclear what, if anything, officers found during their search of the buildings. Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_663594.html
37. *January 22, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (International) **Defense Department official sentenced to 36 months on espionage, false statement charges.** A defendant was sentenced Friday to 36 months in prison, followed by two years of supervised release, for charges involving espionage and making false statements to the FBI. The 62 year-old defendant worked at the Pentagon and, from August 2001 through February 11, 2008, was the Deputy Director, Washington Liaison Office, U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM). He held a top secret security clearance, worked in a Sensitive Compartmentalized Information Facility (SCIF) and had a classified and unclassified computer at his cubicle. On September 25, 2009, the defendant was convicted by a jury of unlawful communication of classified information by a government employee and two counts of making false statements. According to court documents and evidence at trial, the defendant provided certain classified Defense Department documents and other information to a naturalized U.S. citizen from Taiwan from approximately November 2004 to February 11, 2008. The naturalized citizen still maintained close

contact with a PRC official.

Source: <http://washingtondc.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/wfo012210a.htm>

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Emergency Services Sector

38. *January 25, WTVW 7 Evansville* – (Indiana) **Police station vandalized.** Police say a can of tire inflation material and sealant was used to break the glass in a door at the Evansville, Indiana, police department's west sector office on East Columbia Street. The vandalism happened shortly after 1:00 Sunday morning. The Evansville Courier Press reports an officer was inside the office and heard a loud crash and glass breaking. The officer found the can lying outside the broken window. So far no arrest has been made.
Source: <http://tristatehomepage.com/content/fulltext/?cid=126112>

39. *January 25, New York Daily News* – (New York) **Public safety could become serious issue as FDNY budget cuts may mean closure of firehouses.** The New York Fire Department (FDNY) is facing drastic cuts - even the possibility of closing firehouses - as the city grapples with a devastating budget crisis, the Daily News has learned. FDNY officials and the mayor's staffers have met to negotiate the upcoming budget, and, while it's a last resort, firehouse closures are "on the table," the fire commissioner said. More talks are scheduled in the coming days as the mayor prepares to release his budget plan on Thursday. The FDNY, like most agencies, has been told to expect significant cuts to close the budget gap. Much of the FDNY's budget goes toward day-to-day operations. Which firehouses are at risk of closing is undecided. But FDNY sources said the 16 companies targeted for shutdown during last year's budget negotiations - but ultimately spared when the City Council restored funds - are again being considered.
Source: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/01/25/2010-01-25_commish_warns_of_tough_times Ahead_as_ax_looms.html

40. *January 25, Allgov.com* – (National) **FBI still sorting out 2,500 cases that used flawed bullet evidence.** The FBI's use of the so-called "comparative bullet lead analysis" has been discredited by federal research, forcing the law enforcement agency to review nearly 2,500 convictions that may have been aided by the now debunked theory. First developed in the early 1960s, the bullet analysis was based on the idea that trace elements lifted off bullets found at crime scenes could be matched up with bullets found in a suspect's possession, thus indicating guilt. In 2005, the National Research Council of the National Academy of Science concluded that the FBI's conclusions from its bullet testing were flawed because millions of bullets can contain trace elements in identical quantities. This revelation forced the FBI to stop relying on the analysis in its investigations and in court, but the agency has been slow to complete its re-examination of the 2,500 cases that may have been tainted by it. So far, the agency has found 187 convictions that relied on expert FBI testimony about the bullet analysis during trial, prompting officials to notify local prosecutors about these findings. Three

convictions that were overturned involved a Colorado man who served 12 years in prison for a double slaying, a Florida man who served 10 years after being convicted of killing his wife, and an Oregon man convicted of a triple slaying.

Source:

http://www.allgov.com/ViewNews/FBI_Still_Sorting_Out_2500_Cases_That_Used_Flawed_Bullet_Evidence_100125

41. *January 25, Lehigh Valley Live* – (Pennsylvania) **Copper wire stolen from North Bangor Volunteer Fire Co.** Someone stole 450 feet of copper wire from the North Bangor Volunteer Fire Co., Pennsylvania state police at Belfast say. The theft happened between Saturday night and Sunday morning. The copper was in three 150-foot sections, police say. The wire was at the firehouse in the 300 block of Lake Minsi Drive in Upper Mount Bethel Township.
Source: http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/slate-belt/index.ssf/2010/01/copper_wire_stolen_from_north.html
42. *January 24, KRQE 13 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Fire department crippled by theft.** Life-saving equipment stolen from a Torrance County, New Mexico, Fire Department late last fall has crippled the station. An Albuquerque man has been arrested for his involvement in the crime. He is accused of keeping some of the stolen goods inside his home. He told police that his house guest brought home the stolen gear last November, which the fire department's chief estimates is worth \$20,000. Investigators found three firefighter suits at the man's home, which is only a portion of the gear stolen, according to investigators. The thieves also damaged an ambulance and two fire trucks. Torrance County fire marshal told police the station was burglarized on November 18.
Source: <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/crime/fire-department-crippled-by-theft>
43. *January 24, WINK 9 Fort Meyers* – (Florida) **Sheriff's office evacuated.** Dozens of emergency vehicles were called to the Charlotte County, Florida, Sheriff's office- after half of the building was engulfed in a strange chemical smelling odor. In protective gear, Hazmat searched the building and tested the air for toxins. Dispatchers were quickly re-routed to cover incoming emergency calls. "Half an hour later the rest of the dispatchers were manning the back up dispatch center. Shortly after, the building was cleared," the police chief said. At this time the cause of the odor is unknown.
Source: <http://www.winknews.com/news/local/82566687.html>
44. *January 23, KRQE 13 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Juvenile detention center catches fire.** A blaze forced evacuations at the Bernalillo County, New Mexico Juvenile Detention Center on Saturday. Firefighters said the main problem was the smoke not the flames. Albuquerque firefighters were called to the 5100 block of Second Street NW after a large number of towels caught fire inside a dryer in the laundry room. The fire was extinguished quickly. Investigators are now trying to figure out if the fire was sparked intentionally. An inmate was drying clothes when the fire began, according to police. The Albuquerque Police Department was called to the scene to help evacuate some of the inmates. Police said the facility was placed in

lockdown, and none of the inmates tried to use the fire as a way to escape.

Source: <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/local/central/juvenile-detention-center-catches-fire>

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Information Technology Sector

45. *January 25, IDG News Service* – (International) **Chinese human rights sites hit by DDoS attack.** Five Web sites run by Chinese human rights activists were attacked by hackers over the weekend, as a separate row continued between Google and China over political cyberattacks. The Web site of Chinese Human Rights Defenders, an advocacy group, was hit by a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack that lasted 16 hours starting January 23, the group said in an e-mailed statement on January 25. A DDoS attack involves the attacker ordering a legion of compromised computers all to visit a certain Web site at once, overwhelming its server with requests for communication and leaving the site inaccessible to normal visitors. The group said it could not confirm the origin of the attackers but called the Chinese government the most likely suspect. The latest hacking attack also targeted another Chinese rights group named Civil Rights and Livelihood Watch; two news sites run by Chinese activists, Canyu and New Century News; and the Independent Chinese Pen Center, which posts essays by dissident writers, according to the e-mailed statement. Public records show the Web sites all share two neighboring IP (Internet Protocol) addresses, suggesting the sites were all affected by the DDoS attack. The bandwidth consumed by the attack hit 2GB per second at its peak, the statement said, citing the Internet service provider for the Web sites. The targeted IP addresses belong to The Planet, a server hosting provider based in Texas. No one at The Planet was immediately available to comment.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9147938/Chinese_human_rights_sites_hit_by_DDoS_attack

46. *January 25, CNET News* – (International) **Survey: Data breaches from malicious attacks doubled last year.** Data breaches at U.S. companies attributed to malicious attacks and botnets doubled from 2008 to 2009 and cost substantially more than breaches caused by human negligence or system glitches, according to a new Ponemon survey to be released on January 25. The incidence of malicious attacks rose from 12 percent in 2008 to 24 percent last year, according to the 2009 Annual Study: U.S. Cost of a Data Breach survey conducted by the Ponemon Institute and sponsored by PGP Corp. The cost per compromised record involving a criminal act averaged \$215, about 40 percent higher than breaches from negligence and 30 percent higher than those from glitches, the survey found. For the first time, companies reported in the survey that data-stealing malware caused their breaches. The average organizational cost of a data breach increased nearly 2 percent to \$6.75 million in 2009, while the average cost per compromised record per breach rose only \$2 to \$204. The most expensive breach in the survey was nearly \$31 million and the least expensive was \$750,000. Meanwhile, 42 percent of all cases reported in the survey involved mistakes made at third parties, such

as outsourcers, and 36 percent of the cases involved lost or stolen laptops or other mobile devices.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-27080_3-10440220-245.html

47. *January 25, The Register* – (International) **Slovak biker spat linked to rare destructive worm.** A rare example of a destructive computer worm has been spotted on the web. Zimuse-A and its variant, Zimuse-B, overwrite MBR (Master Boot Record) files on infected drives with their own data, either 40 days or 20 days respectively after infection. This malicious behaviour corrupts records and makes data recovery difficult if not impossible, anti-virus firm Eset reports. Eset cites circumstantial evidence suggesting the worm was originally created as a prank, targeting bikers in central Slovakian region of Liptov. One of the worm's infection routines attempts to trick users into clicking a pop-up box that informs them of supposed problems with the www.offroad-lm.szm.sk site. Whether the worm was original created to hit users of that group or not, it has now spread far and wide. Eset said it has detected hundreds of incidents of infection since the malware started spreading. After first cropping up in Slovakia, the malware has spread to the US, Thailand and Spain. The worm is distinct from most of the malware currently in circulation, much of which either attempts to drop a backdoor on compromised systems, turn them into botnet clients, or both.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/25/slovak_biker_destructive_worm/
48. *January 25, The Register* – (International) **Whirlpool allows old stains to linger on Kitchenaid.com site.** Domestic appliance manufacturer Whirlpool has come under fire for failing to clean up a malware infection on one of its sites, months after it was notified of a problem by UK anti-virus firm Sophos. Sophos tried for months to clean-up its Kitchenaid.com website, without success, before going public on the problem on Friday. The kitchen utensil selling site remains infected with the Badsrc-C (AKA Asprox) strain of malware five months after a Sophos customer reported a problem, which the security firm forwarded to the white goods firm. The malicious script points towards nowhere at present, so there is not an immediate risk. The problem is that this may change at any time, hence the need for remedial action that Whirlpool seems reluctant to take. The Asprox strain of malware still lingering on Kitchenaid.com's website has been linked to phishing spam. SQL injection attacks on vulnerable website have been a preferred method for spreading malware.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/25/kitchenaid_malware_lingers/
49. *January 25, SC Magazine* – (International) **New spam campaigns see sustained levels in the New Year.** Spammers have launched new campaigns in January to sustain the high levels of spam experienced towards the end of 2009. According to the January 2010 MessageLabs Intelligence Report, spam related to the New Year accounted for 7.7 percent of all spam on a single day. More than 50 percent of New Year related spam was sent by the Grum and Cutwail botnets combined. Since the New Year passed, it claimed that spammers are now moving away from the New Year themes and are expected to next latch onto Valentine's Day-related spam topics. It also said that spammers and phishers have also been quick to take advantage of the tragedy that struck Haiti to generate advanced-fee fraud scams. With 83.4 percent of spam

originating from botnets at the end of 2009, MessageLabs Intelligence calculated that the remainder of spam, 0.9 per cent – the equivalent of 900 million spam emails, originated from free web mail accounts. More than 79 percent of web mail spam came from three well-known free web mail service providers.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/new-spam-campaigns-see-sustained-levels-in-the-new-year/article/162225/>

50. *January 25, Network World* – (International) **Data breach costs top \$200 per customer record.** The cost of a data breach increased last year to \$204 per compromised customer record, according to the Ponemon Institute's annual study. The average total cost of a data breach rose from \$6.65 million in 2008 to \$6.75 million in 2009. Ponemon Institute based its estimates on data from 45 companies that publicly acknowledged a breach of sensitive customer data last year and were willing to discuss it. Breach costs increased just \$2 per compromised customer record, as compared to 2008 costs. However in the five years that Ponemon Institute has conducted its study, costs have increased from \$138 per compromised customer record. In tallying the cost of a data breach, Ponemon Institute looks at several factors including: the cost of lost business because of an incident; legal fees; disclosure expenses related to customer contact and public response; consulting help; and remediation expenses such as technology and training. Overall, 42 percent of all cases in the Ponemon data-breach study involved third-party mistakes and flubs. In addition, more than 82 percent of the cases in the Ponemon study were organizations that had more than one data breach in 2009 involving the loss or theft of more than 1,000 records containing personal information. At about 40 percent of the companies that participated in the study, the chief information security officer (CISO) was in charge of managing the response related to the data breach.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/012510-data-breach-costs.html?hpg1=bn>

51. *January 22, ComputerWorld* – (International) **China hacks used as lure for more targeted attacks.** Malicious hackers have begun using the recent cyberattacks against Google and more than 30 other companies as lures for launching even more targeted attacks, security firm F-Secure said in a blog post on January 22. The company reported spoofed e-mails purporting to contain details on the alleged Chinese attacks that contain a PDF attachment. When opened, it installs and runs the Acrobat.exe backdoor on the user's machine. A screen shot posted on F-Secure's Web site showed an e-mail designed to look like it came from George Washington University. The e-mail, with the subject header 'Chinese cyberattack,' offered the target a review of an article on the recent attacks that the purported author had just written for the Far Eastern Economic Review. When the attached PDF is opened in Acrobat Reader, it exploits a known vulnerability in the doc.media.newPlayer function of the reader to install a back door on the user's system, F-Secure said. The flaw was patched by Adobe recently.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9147458/China_hacks_used_as_lure_for_more_targeted_attacks

52. *January 22, IDG News Service* – (International) **RealPlayer fix addresses 11 security bugs.** The U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team advised RealPlayer users on January 22 to apply a new security update for the media-playing software. The update, issued recently, fixes 11 vulnerabilities in RealPlayer, and were issued for Windows, Mac and Linux versions of the product. Although CERT thinks the patch is important, RealNetworks said in its advisory that it has received “no reports of any machines actually being compromised as a result of the now-remedied vulnerabilities.” Although RealPlayer has lost market share recently to rivals such as Windows Media Player and iTunes, it is still widely used and has been exploited in past cyberattacks.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9147540/RealPlayer_fix_addresses_11_security_bugs

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

53. *January 25, Associated Press* – (North Carolina; South Carolina) **SC TV station loses transmitter briefly in storm.** Severe weather apparently knocked out a transmitter for an NBC-TV affiliate in South Carolina for more than two hours, affecting viewers in two states. WYFF-TV in Greenville said the transmitter on top of Ceasar’s Head Mountain in Greenville County was knocked out at about 5:45 p.m. on January 24. Engineers were able to restore service shortly after 8 p.m. Viewers in western North Carolina and the South Carolina Upstate were affected, depending on how they receive the station’s signal.

Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11874158>

54. *January 24, KSFY 13 Sioux Falls* – (South Dakota) **National weather service transmitters down.** The National Weather Service in Sioux Falls say they have at least two weather transmitters or towers down because of the storm. One problem is with the tower which serves South Central South Dakota. The other is in the Huron area in Wessington. The thick fog froze to the metal and then wind did the rest of the damage that will cut off information to people who need it. “The primary impact is they won’t be receiving weather info and that’s a problem. They cover 40-50 miles it is unclear if it is just a tower or a just a transmitter,” said a spokesman for the National Weather Service. Officials say they will try to get to the issues on January 23 to see how much damage has been done.

Source: <http://www.ksfy.com/news/local/82444377.html>

55. *January 21, Associated Press* – (International) **Warming could open Arctic to data cable.** Global warming has melted so much Arctic ice that a telecommunication group is moving forward with a project that was unthinkable just a few years ago: laying underwater fiber optic cable between Tokyo and London by way of the Northwest Passage. The proposed system would nearly cut in half the time it takes to send messages from the United Kingdom to Asia, said the CEO of Kodiak-Kenai Cable Co. The route is the shortest underwater path between Tokyo and London. The quicker transmission time is important in the financial world where milliseconds can count in executing profitable trades and transactions. “Speed is the crux,” the CEO said. “You’re cutting the delay from 140 milliseconds to 88 milliseconds.”
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34980901/ns/us_news-environment/

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Commercial Facilities Sector

56. *January 25, Washington Post* – (International) **At least 36 dead as car bombs rock Baghdad hotels.** Three large car bombs rocked well-known Baghdad hotels on Monday, killing at least 36 people and ending a 1-1/2-month lull in coordinated assaults on the Iraqi capital as the country heads into a March election. Police said at least 71 people were wounded in the separate suicide car bombings, which went off within minutes of one another. Some of the casualties were police. Health ministry data showed a lower figure for the death toll. The first blast occurred near an entrance of the Ishtar Sheraton hotel, a Baghdad landmark on the eastern side of the Tigris River. The shock wave blew open doors, shattered windows, and sent thick dust swirling into the Reuters offices nearby. Towering concrete blastwalls protecting the hotel along the Abu Nawas riverside boulevard fell like dominoes. The blast took place across from a park frequented by families and picnickers. The building has not been a regular hotel for years and largely houses company offices and some media organizations, but some adventurous international tour groups began using it last year. Police said another blast went off just outside the al-Hamra hotel, which has been a hub for many Western journalists since 2003. One Western reporter said the hotel had sustained heavy damage. The Washington Post said three of its Iraqi employees were wounded. The blast at the Hamra, like that at the Sheraton, ripped a giant crater in the pavement. A final bomb appeared to have blown up near the Babylon hotel, which is used by Iraqi travelers and sometimes for government meetings. A Baghdad security spokesman put the death toll at seven killed with 51 wounded, citing health ministry data.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/25/AR2010012500974.html>
57. *January 25, KBAK 29 Bakersfield* – (California) **Bomb scare evacuates Wasco shopping center.** A device resembling a bomb forced an entire Wasco, California, shopping center to be evacuated Sunday night. Kern County Sheriff’s Office got a call just before 4:00pm of a suspicious device inside a newspaper dispenser at the Save

Mart shopping center on Highway 46. When deputies arrived, they found the device inside and say it had batteries and blinking LED lights. To be keep the public safe, deputies evacuated everyone from the shopping center and called in the bomb squad. The bomb squad removed the device from the newsstand and determined that it was not explosive.

Source: <http://www.bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/82576727.html>

58. *January 25, WGRZ 2 Buffalo* – (New York) **Amherst hotel shooting keeps police busy.** Amherst Police are trying to find the person who shot three people early Saturday morning outside the Marriott Residence Inn on Maple Road. A 17-year-old female from Buffalo was shot in the lower abdomen and taken to ECMC. She is expected to make a full recovery. Two other young people were grazed by a bullet, but they did not require medical attention at a hospital, according to the Amherst Police Detective Captain. There are conflicting reports on where the shooting took place. “As far as our investigation has determined at this point, it looks like the shooting all occurred outside the room,” said the captain. Police say the shooting was a result of a fight that escalated between two groups of girls. There were as many as 30 people inside a hotel room for a party when another group of females showed up, according to the Assistant Chief of the Amherst Police Department. Several local police agencies were called in to form a perimeter around the parking lot because at the time officers thought they were dealing with an active shooter situation. Several people locked themselves in the hotel room and refused to come out. The Emergency Response Team was activated to search for suspects and clear the hotel room.

Source: <http://www.wgrz.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=73830&catid=37>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

59. *January 24, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Audit finds inspections lacking for one in three New Jersey dams.** One in three New Jersey dams was not inspected in a timely fashion, keeping the state and neighbors in the dark about what risks they could face after heavy storms. A state audit of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) found 32 percent of New Jersey’s potentially hazardous dams were overdue on inspections. New Jersey has 1,724 dams, including 33 large ones that must be inspected annually and 527 considered a high hazard or significant hazard that must be examined every two years. The audit submitted to the Governor’s Office December 28 found that 169 of the dams were overdue on inspections, including 74 past due by more than a year. This was an improvement over the DEP’s last audit, which found half of the high-hazard and significant-hazard dams were overdue on inspections. “The absence of

timely inspections prevents the bureau from assessing the extent of damaged dams,” the audit found. “These inspections would note problems that dam owners may need to address which could pose a risk to property and public safety.”

Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/article_cd9582d4-091a-11df-b6bb-001cc4c002e0.html

60. *January 23, Laurel Leader Call* – (Mississippi) **Eroding dam not expected to cause issue.** Officials said Friday that the possibility of the breaking of a second dam in Jones County, Mississippi, is not expected to cause major problems. The director of the Jones County Emergency Management Agency, said more than 13 million gallons of water rushed out of a private lake Thursday morning after a dam at Highway 84 East and Poole Creek Road broke. He said that water threatened the integrity of another dam located in Rolling Hills Ranch Lake. “The dam in Rolling Hills Ranch Lake is continuing to fail,” he said Friday afternoon. “We are monitoring it. It is continuing to fail, but it will not be like the other one. “We don’t believe that it is going to be a massive failure at this point. It’s going to be gradual,” he added. “Since it’s going to be gradual, we don’t anticipate any problems from this one. “ He pointed out that while the dam is eroding, it has helped relieve the pressure of the water. Also Friday, he said, that officials have not established a “time frame on when it [the break of the second dam] will occur.” However, he said, no major problems are expected to develop from it. Once the water leave Rolling Hills Ranch Lake, officials expect it to travel to Brushy Creek and into Lake Bogue Homa.

Source: http://www.leadercall.com/local/local_story_023113647.html

61. *January 23, Everett HeraldNet* – (Washington) **Animal blamed for leak in Marysville levee.** A burrowing animal apparently caused a breach in a levee — and minor flooding — Thursday along Ebey Slough near Sunnyside south of Marysville, Washington. No homes or people were threatened by the breach, which was close to 20 feet long. It was discovered about 2 p.m. Diking District No. 4, which oversees flood control in the area, reported the breach and is repairing the levee with technical assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, said a Snohomish County spokesman. County Public Works, state Department of Emergency Management and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers worked to repair the breach. Crews had plugged it Friday morning and were monitoring it to make sure repairs held through a high tide, he said. District No. 4 is contiguous with the Diking District No. 2 levee upstream. The Lake Stevens sewage treatment plant is nearby, but was no immediate threat to the treatment plant, he said.

Source: <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20100123/NEWS01/701239899>

62. *January 22, Seattle Post Intelligencer* – (Idaho; Washington; Oregon) **Study offers new models for dam operations.** As the climate gets warmer, the old rules for when to let water out of Columbia Basin dams and when to hold it back will not work. Researchers from the University of Washington’s Climate Impacts Group and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have developed computer models that simulate new operations schedules for flood control dams in Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Canada. A University of Washington researcher says there will be less snowpack as the climate warms and it will melt earlier, requiring different dam operations schedules.

The chief of water management for the Corps of Engineers Seattle District, says the simulations are helping them see how to make the dams serve power, irrigation, salmon, and recreation in the future.

Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_or_dams_climate.html?source=myspi

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