



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 2 March 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Honolulu Star-Bulletin reports that fears of a tsunami caused by Saturday's earthquake in Chile led to emergency measures being enacted across Hawaii. DOT worked with Coast Guard and harbor police to notify boat owners to leave harbors. KITV 4 Honolulu reports that Waikiki hotels evacuated guests to the third floor and above, and various tourism agencies ran emergency operations at the Hawaii Convention Center. (See items [32](#) and [70](#))
- According to the Oregon Statesman Journal, the FBI said Saturday that agents are trying to learn the identities of nine men who were photographed taking pictures of Detroit Dam on February 14. (See item [75](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

Energy Sector

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

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

1. *February 28, USA Today* – (Northeast) **Winter still packs wallop from Maine to Md.** Communities in the Northeast were cleaning up on February 28 from a winter storm that packed ferocious winds as it dumped up to 3 feet of snow and knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of customers. Winds greater than 60 mph were

recorded in East Boston, Massachusetts, Portland, Maine, and Concord, New Hampshire, while gusts of 123 mph hit New Hampshire's Mount Washington. The storm caused 2,700 flight cancellations February 26 and 27 in Philadelphia, Newark, New York City and Boston, the Air Transport Association said. At its peak, the storm cut power to 238,000 customers in New York state February 26 and closed a long stretch of Interstate 84, according to the New York Emergency Management Office. New York power companies report that 90 percent of their 100,000 customers still without power on February 28 would be restored by March 2, an emergency management official said. In New Hampshire, 107,000 customers were still without power on February 28, said a spokeswoman for the state Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. At its peak, the storm knocked out power to 330,000 customers in New Hampshire, where the governor declared a state of emergency on February 26.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/weather/storms/winter/2010-02-28-storms-northeast_N.htm

2. *February 28, KSLA 12 Shreveport* – (Louisiana) **Rig worker killed on Keithville drilling site.** An accident has taken the life of a man working on a natural gas drilling site in South Caddo Parish. It happened around 5:15 a.m. February 28 at the Morrell Et Al 8H-1 drill site, which is owned by Chesapeake Operating, Inc. and operated by Trinidad Drilling, LTD. The location, where work began February 10, is located off Graham Road in Keithville. A statement released the afternoon of February 28 by Chesapeake says the worker, a Trinidad employee, was killed in an accident that took place while drilling operations were ongoing. The man of Rio Grande City, Texas, died of a head injury while stringing pipe about 60 feet up on the rig itself. A doctor says it took some time to get the victim down from the platform. A Caddo Sheriff's Office spokesperson says deputies and crime scene investigators are always called to the scene of any fatality, as they were in this case. But, she says, there was no indication of foul play. The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) is also expected to investigate.

Source: <http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=12058603>

3. *February 27, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **Fire destroys Wolf Point gas station.** Officials are trying to figure out what started a fire that destroyed a Wolf Point gas station February 27. The Wolf Point Volunteer Fire Department was called out to the Agland Co-op Cenex gas station, at 603 Highway 2 on the west end of town, just after 4 a.m. when passers-by reported a fire at the building. A fire captain said the building's shop was engulfed and flames were shooting out of the roof when firefighters arrived. They were able to keep the fire from reaching fuel tanks by flipping an emergency shut-off valve, but the blaze did spread to the store section of the building. A request for mutual aid went out, and seven firefighters from Valley County responded to help, said the chief of the Valley County Long Run Fire Department. Fire crews had the blaze under control by about 9 p.m. He said a few of the building's walls are still standing, but firefighters had to knock down a back wall to get inside for suppression efforts. No injuries were reported. He said it appears the blaze started inside the building. A dozen Wolf Point firefighters responded using four firefighting

vehicles, along with the crew from Valley County.

Source: http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article_0eeda0ee-240b-11df-a08b-001cc4c03286.html

4. *February 26, Examiner* – (Colorado) **Dispatched to fire at industrial complex.** Firefighters were dispatched to an industrial fire at PPI in Adams County mid morning on Wednesday, February 24. All four stations responded to a report of a possible building burning at the industrial complex at an asphalt batch plant. Once on scene it was discovered that the fire was in a piece of equipment that is referred to as a “bag house”. This piece of equipment removes dust from asphalt aggregate and heats up to more than 1,000 degrees. An effort to spray water on top did not appear to be putting the fire out, so all four vents on the sides of the container were opened to release any threat of explosion. Water was then directed through the vents. Firefighters were still unable to access the filtration bags from the vents so they had to put crews on top of the bag house and remove the access hatches so that the water could be directed back in from the top. The fire was eventually extinguished using a master stream of water from the district’s elevated platform from their fire engine 34. A foreman for the company said he suspects a piece of paper was sucked up through the vents into the machinery and that possibly ignited and caught the bags inside the bag house to catch on fire. It took more than 4 hours to completely put the fire out. Estimated loss from the fire, equipment only, not lost revenue, is \$700,000.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/x-39474-North-Washington-Fire-District-Examiner~y2010m2d26-Dispatched-to-fire-at-industrial-complex>

5. *February 26, ThePoliceNews.Net* – (Louisiana) **Coast Guard responds to a pipeline rupture in the Gulf of Mexico.** The Coast Guard is investigating the circumstances surrounding a pipeline rupture near buoys five and six of the Atchafalaya Channel that occurred February 24. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Morgan City, Louisiana received a report at 7:45 a.m. from Coast Guard Sector New Orleans reporting that the dredge G. D. Morgan, owned by Weeks Marine, Inc., had struck a gas pipeline, resulting in a fire and minor injuries. The Morgan City unit responded with a team of investigators, inspectors, and pollution personnel. The pipeline was identified as being owned by Contango Oil & Gas Company and was shut-in before 8 a.m. The Coast Guard has established a safety zone for Eugene Island block 63 from buoy three to buoy eight, to include an approximately one-mile radius from the incident site. The Atchafalaya Channel will be closed for four-hour increments, and traffic being held will be cleared every four hours. Vessels are prohibited from entering this safety zone unless they have been granted permission by the Captain of the Port, Morgan City.

Source:

[http://www.familybadge.org/\(X\(1\)S\(0c1y5k2yxfz4je455ctgzibz\)\)/default.aspx?act=Newsletter.aspx&category=News+1-2&newsletterid=18220&menugroup=Home](http://www.familybadge.org/(X(1)S(0c1y5k2yxfz4je455ctgzibz))/default.aspx?act=Newsletter.aspx&category=News+1-2&newsletterid=18220&menugroup=Home)

For more stories, see items [28](#) and [43](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *February 26, Chicago Southtown Star* – (Illinois) **1 hospitalized after UPark chem leak.** One person was taken to a hospital after a hazardous materials leak at a plant in the 24600 block of Governors Highway in University Park. The Fire Chief said a contractor near the spill at the Rhodia chemical company plant was taken to St. James Hospital in Olympia Fields as a precautionary measure, although he had no physical complaints at the site. Further information on the man's condition was not immediately available. He said crews responded at about 8:45 a.m. to the plant, where they were met by plant personnel. A valve broke on a containment vessel in the plant. Its contents — 6,500 pounds of a combustible liquid — leaked onto the floor in the plant, where it was contained, he said. "The plant contained it," he said. "They have haz-mat personnel on scene." After setting up barriers to contain the clear liquid, about which the chief had no more specifics, plant personnel piped it to a containment pond outdoors, on the company's property. A clean-up company will arrive today to remove the chemical from the pond, he said. He said plant staff handled the situation well. He said the chemical poses no danger to people in the area. According to its Web site, Rhodia produces diphenols, which are used in aromas for the food and fragrance markets, among other things, and sulfuric acid for oil refiners and other manufacturers of chemical products.

Source: <http://www.southtownstar.com/news/2071909,022610UPhazmat.article>

For another story, see item [37](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *March 1, St. Joseph's News Press* – (Nebraska) **Cooper nuclear plant halfway to re-licensing.** The Cooper Nuclear Station in Southeast Nebraska has passed the halfway point in renewing its operating license with the federal government. The Nebraska Public Power District is seeking a 20-year extension to its current license, which is set to expire in January 2014. The plant received its initial license and began operating in 1974. The re-licensing is occurring at a time when the federal government is expressing more interest in developing power from nuclear resources. Officials with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will seek public comments April 7 on a draft environmental impact statement concerning the plant. Two meetings will be held at the city hall in Auburn, Nebraska. Both meetings will begin with an overview. Informal discussions with government officials will be held an hour prior to the sessions, but formal comments will not be accepted at that time. "It's going very well," said a spokesman for the utility, about the license process. "We're responding to requests from the NRC for documentation." The preliminary draft prepared by the government concludes that there are no environmental impacts that would preclude renewing the facility's license.

Source: <http://www.stjoenews.net/news/2010/mar/01/cooper-nuclear-plant-halfway-re-licensing/?local>

8. *February 27, Washington Post* – (National) **Homeland Security Dept. says it will drop plans for Bush-era nuclear detectors.** The Department of Homeland Security office responsible for protecting the nation from nuclear and radiological terrorism is largely scrapping plans for new high-tech detectors for screening vehicles and cargo, saying they cost too much and do not work as effectively as security officials once maintained. In a February 24 letter to the chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the acting chief of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) said officials will possibly use the machines only for secondary screening, at no more than about a third of the cost originally planned. The decision makes sense “given the available performance and cost data,” the acting DNDO director wrote. The development virtually ensures the collapse of one of the most prominent national security initiatives in the previous Presidential administration, which aggressively touted the machines as a high-tech front-line defense against the importation of nuclear materials.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/26/AR2010022605539.html>
9. *February 27, New London Day* – (Connecticut) **Millstone Unit 2 reactor shut down after malfunction.** Dominion was investigating the cause Friday of a cooling equipment malfunction at the Unit 2 reactor at Millstone Power Station in Waterford that forced a shutdown. The incident occurred about 11 a.m., as work was being done on one of the reactor’s four water-circulating pump bays. A second pump went off-line as another one was being worked on, reducing cooling flow to the plant’s condenser, said a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Control room operators safely shut the reactor down, he said, and the NRC is monitoring the situation. Unit 3 remained in operation online. Water is drawn from Niantic Bay and circulated through the condenser to cool down and condense steam generated by nuclear fission. It is eventually returned to the waterway. A Dominion spokesman said the company would continue to investigate exactly how and why the malfunction occurred. Unit 2 is one of two operating reactors owned by Dominion. A third reactor is permanently shut down.
Source: <http://www.theday.com/article/20100227/NWS01/302279915/1019&town=>
10. *February 26, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **4 Hawaii residents denied standing by NRC board.** Four Hawaii residents have been denied standing to participate in an Army license application to handle depleted uranium. The order came Wednesday from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s Atomic Safety and Licensing Board. It held the four failed to prove they were likely to be harmed by the military’s actions. One of the residents, a resident of the Big Island, says the commission appears to be “a rubber stamp” for the military and the nuclear industry. The Army is seeking an after-the-fact license to possess the radioactive material that was used in weapons training at Schofield Barracks on Oahu and Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island. The depleted uranium spotting rounds were used in the 1960s and have been emitting low levels of radiation since.
Source:

<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20100226/BREAKING01/100226055/4+Hawaii+residents+denied+standing+by+NRC+board>

11. *February 24, New York Times* – (Vermont) **Vermont Senate votes to close nuclear plant.** In an unusual state foray into nuclear regulation, the Vermont Senate voted 26 to 4 Wednesday to block operation of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant after 2012, citing radioactive leaks, misstatements in testimony by plant officials and other problems. Unless the chamber reverses itself, it will be the first time in more than 20 years that the public or its representatives has decided to close a reactor. The vote came just more than a week after the President declared a new era of rebirth for the nation's nuclear industry, announcing federal loan guarantees of \$8.3 billion to assure the construction of a twin-reactor plant near Augusta, Georgia. While it is unclear how Vermont Yankee's fate could influence the future of nuclear power nationally, the reactor's recent troubles are viewed by some as a challenge to arguments that such plants are clean, well run and worth building.
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/25/us/25nuke.html?pagewanted=1>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

12. *March 1, Reuters* – (International) **Mines struggle back to life in quake-ravaged Chile.** Chile's mines and seaports were struggling to get up and running early Monday, two days after a massive earthquake disrupted commodity production in the world's top copper supplier, as damage to the power grid hindered a return to normal operations. The price of copper initially jumped more than 5 percent when markets opened on Monday, after Saturday's 8.8 magnitude quake, one of the largest on record, closed up to a fifth of copper mine capacity in Chile. The mines most affected were south of Santiago, near where the quake was centered off the coast of Chile. State-owned Codelco, the world's No. 1 copper producer, reported Monday that its Andina mine was still shut. But its massive El Teniente underground mine, which accounts for more than 7 percent of Chile's copper, restarted on Sunday. U.S.-based Freeport McMoRan said its Candelaria mine, northeast of Santiago, was restoring operations to normal levels, although the power supply was still unsettled. Antofagasta PLC said Monday power was restored at the Los Pelambres mine and that the mine was coming back on line as of Sunday. Anglo American PLC said on Monday production was affected at the Los Bronces, El Soldado, and Mantoverde mines and the Chagres copper smelter. Iron ore producer CAP said Monday it was forced to close its southern Huachipato steel unit and that repairing the damage will take at least 3 months to get output back to normal.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0125243320100301?type=marketsNews>
13. *February 27, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **Toyota 'deliberately withheld' evidence in safety lawsuits, House panel says.** Toyota Motor Corporation "deliberately withheld" evidence in lawsuits related to vehicle safety, exhibiting a "systematic disregard for the law," the chairman of a congressional committee said. The firm created "secret electronic 'Books of Knowledge' " that included information

about design problems, yet never disclosed their existence in lawsuits, according to internal company documents released by the committee Friday. The allegations, made by the head of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, came two days after Toyota's chief executive appeared before Congress to apologize for the automaker's handling of the sudden acceleration issue. In a three-page letter sent to Toyota's top official in the U.S., the congressman details a review of company documents that the committee obtained from a former Toyota lawyer who handled product liability lawsuits. Toyota said in a statement that it "takes its legal obligations seriously," but that it is not uncommon "for companies to object to certain demands for documents made in litigation." The automaker said it is "confident that we have acted appropriately with respect to product liability litigation."

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-toyota-biller28-2010feb28,0,5134884.story>

14. *February 26, Fort Worth Star-Telegram* – (National) **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to test Lexus that uncontrollably accelerated.** Three days after lawmakers publicly excoriated safety investigators for not acquiring and testing a Lexus involved in a 2006 Tennessee sudden acceleration incident, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) did just that. In a news release Friday, the NHTSA said it bought the Lexus ES 350 once owned by the couple who gave testimony Tuesday at a congressional hearing about their runaway vehicle. The woman testified that as she pulled onto an interstate, the car accelerated to 100 mph even with her foot on the brake pedal and the car in neutral and reverse. "NHTSA will thoroughly examine the [car] as we work to get to the bottom of possible causes for sudden acceleration," the U.S. Transportation Secretary said. An accident in Southlake on December 26 in which four people in a Toyota Avalon were killed is also suspected of being a case of sudden unintended acceleration.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2010/02/26/2000967/national-highway-traffic-safety.html>

15. *February 26, PhillyBurbs.com* – (Pennsylvania) **Spilled acid sends two to the hospital.** Two people were taken to the hospital this afternoon after nitric acid was spilled inside a laboratory in a Bristol Township industrial park, a Fire Marshal said. Independent contractors hired to dispose of the acid were inside a laboratory in Northtec Inc. on Sinclair Road near Ford Road when a small container spilled, he said. The spilled acid came into one worker's skin while another worker inhaled the acid's fumes, the fire marshal said. Both men, who were conscious and alert, were taken to Aria Hospitals' Torresdale Campus. The building did not need to be evacuated because the laboratory had its own, isolated ventilation system. The Newportville, Croydon and Third District fire companies responded to the incident along with the Bucks County Rescue Squad.

Source:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/news_details/article/92/2010/february/26/spilled-acid-sends-two-to-the-hospital.html

Defense Industrial Base Sector

16. *March 1, Aviation Week* – (National) **New Predator variants, new UAV roles.** The two latest variants of the Predator unmanned aerial vehicle for the U.S. Army and Customs and Border Protection Service will move closer to initial deployment following the completion of key tests in California this month. Weapons tests of the Army's MQ-1C Sky Warrior, a heavily modified derivative of the General Atomics Aeronautical Systems (GA-ASI) Predator A, were successfully completed following the last live firings of nine Hellfire P+ missiles. The GA-ASI Chairman and CEO says a post-test review identified "minor technical and desired fixes," adding that an "updated software release will be verification-tested in March from our El Mirage flight operations facility." The MQ-1C is being fast-tracked into service with newly formed quick reaction capability (QRC) units in Iraq and Afghanistan. The CEO says the updated release will be used to support soldier training prior to a limited user test scheduled for May, and subsequent fielding slated for July. The weapons tests, which began at the U.S. Naval Air Weapons Center at China Lake in late November, are part of preparations to arm aircraft for a second quick-reaction unit, QRC-2.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/awst/2010/02/22/AW_02_22_2010_p31-205405.xml&headline=New Predator Variants, New UAV Roles&channel=defense](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/awst/2010/02/22/AW_02_22_2010_p31-205405.xml&headline=New%20Predator%20Variants,%20New%20UAV%20Roles&channel=defense)

17. *March 1, Aviation Week* – (National) **USAF slips JSF operational debut.** U.S. Air Force Secretary said February 25 that the initial operational capability (IOC) of the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) has slipped for his service to late calendar year 2015. Meanwhile, Navy officials may not stick with their earlier plan of a 2014 IOC. The general's comments on the Air Force were a response to a question during a hearing on Capitol Hill. A congressman asked when the service would have "deployable, meaningful numbers of aircraft in the air." The general's answer signaled a shift for the official IOC date, which is when the aircraft is capable of deploying and executing its mission. This is about a two-year slip. Only a week ago, the commander of Air Combat Command said he was "re-evaluating" that date. He says the Air Force wants to declare IOC with Block III software. The Marine Corps is willing to go with the less capable Block II software in 2012. JSF flight testing will conclude in the fall of 2014, with a test report out most likely the following year. This shift could signal an unwillingness on the part of the Air Force to declare operational capability before the aircraft and its software are fully tested. Though aircraft are being produced as planned, the software testing is lagging. Navy officials note that the service's IOC of 2014 "was based on three items: sufficient aircraft quantities, capability and completion of test." The Navy plan is to stand up squadrons as aircraft are received and "declare IOC when sufficient capability is tested and delivered," a Navy official said February 26. Service officials are awaiting a final program test schedule to determine the effect on its IOC.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2010/03/01/13.xml&headline=USAF Slips JSF Operational Debut&channel=defense](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2010/03/01/13.xml&headline=USAF%20Slips%20JSF%20Operational%20Debut&channel=defense)

18. *February 26, Aviation Week* – (National) **Challenges ahead for NLOS-LS.** The failure of four of six shots from the U.S. Army's Non Line-of-Sight Launch System (NLOS-LS) during recent testing could spell trouble for the Raytheon-built vertical launcher, which also is supposed to be fielded aboard the Navy's Littoral Combat Ship (LCS). Results from a Limited User Test (LUT) of the system, which ran from Jan. 26 to Feb. 5 at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, are currently under evaluation. The NLOS-LS's surprisingly poor performance — attributed to a combination of operator error and technical failures — will be the primary topic of discussion during an interim Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) meeting in March. Raytheon issued an official statement, that read in part, "Of the six LUT flights, two were direct hits, two were misses with root cause known and corrective action implemented, and two were misses with root cause currently under investigation." The company noted that over the course of the program, the Precision Attack Missile (PAM) has fired 23 missiles with 14 direct hits. "NLOS-LS is in the system design and development phase," Raytheon said. "We test in order to identify issues and quickly resolve them." The Army has three choices, according to a BCTM spokesperson: "Keep [NLOS-LS] going, modify it or cancel it." The Army's big concern is that NLOS-LS fills an important capability gap. "We don't have an easily deployable guided missile system," he said. "The operational factors of NLOS-LS are still necessary. The Army needs to determine the best path forward to work out any technical solutions that may come out as a result of the LUT."

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/asd/2010/02/26/07.xml

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

19. *March 1, SC Magazine* – (International) **Restricting access to cardholder data is the biggest challenge of PCI-DSS compliance.** Restricting access to cardholder data is the most difficult requirement for merchants to meet in Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) compliance audits. Meanwhile, almost half of businesses would fail audits if they were unable to rely on temporary compensating controls, while two per cent of businesses outright fail compliance audits. According to the PCI DSS Trends 2010 report on qualified security assessors (QSA) insights, conducted by the Ponemon Institute on behalf of Thales, QSAs believe that requirement seven (restricting access to cardholder data on a business-driven need-to-know basis) is the most important part in achieving PCI DSS compliance. The report said that QSAs find the most significant threats to card data are in merchant networks and databases containing cardholder data.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/restricting-access-to-cardholder-data-is-the-biggest-challenge-of-pci-dss-compliance/article/164747/>

20. *March 1, Lehigh Valley Live* – (Pennsylvania) **Bomb threat briefly forces evacuation of Hanover Township Wachovia bank.** A bomb threat on February 27 forced the evacuation of a Hanover Township bank, Colonial Regional police said. Police said the

manager of the Wachovia bank called police about 11:25 a.m. to report the threat. The bank is in the 2700 block of Schoenersville Road. The manager told police the threat was received by a teller, police said. The message, which sounded like a recording, said, “This is a bomb threat and you need to evacuate. You are one of three branches,” according to police. Colonial Regional police were aware of no similar threats to Wachovia banks in the area. When police searched the bank and found nothing suspicious, normal operations resumed, police said.

Source:

http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/bethlehem/index.ssf/2010/03/bomb_threat_briefly_forces_eva.html

21. *March 1, Ecommerce Journal* – (National) **Investmentforge is an investment fake.** This scam investment game program should be called investment fake instead of investmentforge. The admin claims that Investment Forge is a registered and certified name “Intelvix Corporation” and they are an investment control management team. This program offers three types of low rate of return within long period of time frame plans which are 2 percent daily for 40 days, 2.4 percent daily for 80 days, and 2.8 percent daily for 120 days. The members reported that this program revealed itself to be a scam when the admin stopped paying them since the middle of last month. The admin also displays fake incorporation certificate images as well as fake daily trading performance results.

Source: http://www.ecommerce-journal.com/news/27183_investmentforge-investment-fake

22. *February 28, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Wyndham Hotels hacked again.** International hotel group Wyndham Hotels and Resorts has suffered yet another serious data breach after hackers broke into its computer systems and stole customer names and payment card information. An open letter posted on the firm’s site said that the hotel group discovered the attack on one of its data centers in late January. “By going through the centralized network connections, the hacker was able to access and download information from several, but not all, of the Wyndham hotels and remove payment card information of a small percentage of customers,” read the letter. “In addition to ensuring that the hack was immediately terminated and disabled, we promptly retained a qualified investigator to assess the problem and ensure that we had isolated it, and then to help us implement the proper changes to strengthen and improve the security of our connections with each of our branded properties.” The company also hired an investigation firm to assess and improve the security at “each hotel property in the system”. Wyndham also notified the US Secret Service and several state attorneys, and has provided the credit card companies with the numbers of all compromised cards so that they can monitor usage.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2258650/wyndham-hotels-hacked-again>

23. *February 28, Associated Press* – (International) **Security up after Thai bank blasts.** Thailand’s prime minister ordered stepped-up security in Bangkok on February 28 after four banks were targeted with small explosive devices. The attacks the evening of February 27, in which no one was hurt, came a day after the Supreme Court ordered

\$1.4 billion of a exiled former leader's assets seized for corruption. Authorities had voiced concern the verdict could spark violent protests by his supporters but none occurred. The Prime Minister told reporters on February 28 that he did not know who was behind the attacks on Bangkok Bank, the country's biggest commercial bank. Police said only minor damage was caused when grenades exploded at two of the bank's branches, and were found unexploded at two others.

Source:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703411304575094101335647946.html?mod=googlenews_wsj

24. *February 27, KDKA 2 Pittsburgh* – (Colorado) **FBI says man who allegedly robbed banks claiming to have swine flu is in custody.** Police believe they have the man known as H1N1 bandit in custody. The FBI says he is responsible for five bank robberies. The thief got the name while robbing a Wells Fargo bank in Cherry Creek in December. He told a teller his face was covered because he had swine flu. Denver police arrested the 52 year old on February 28. Investigators believe he tried to rob a Key Bank on Parker Road in Aurora earlier that day.

Source: <http://kdka.com/watercooler/bank.robbery.swine.2.1525759.html>

25. *February 27, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Two banks, two credit unions closed Feb. 26.** Four banking institutions - two banks and two credit unions - were closed by state and federal regulators late this past week. These latest closings bring to 24 the total number of failed institutions so far in 2010. The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) on February 25 liquidated Friendship Community Federal Credit Union of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and accepted Shreveport Federal Credit Union's offer to purchase and assume the credit union. At closure, Friendship Community Federal Credit Union had \$861,696 in assets and served 685 members. The NCUA liquidated Mutual Diversified Employees FCU of Santa Ana, California, and accepted SchoolsFirst Federal Credit Union's offer to purchase and assume the credit union. At closure, Mutual Diversified Employees Federal Credit Union had \$6.1 million in assets and served 748 members. Carson River Community Bank, Carson City, Nevada, was closed by the Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Financial Institutions Division, which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. The FDIC estimates that the cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$7.9 million. Finally, Rainier Pacific Bank, Tacoma, Washington, was closed by the Washington Department of Financial Institutions, which appointed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as receiver. The FDIC estimates that the cost to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) will be \$95.2 million.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2245

26. *February 27, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **4 indicted in Tenn. for multimillion insurance fraud.** The Tennessee Attorney General Office said four people have been indicted for their part in a multimillion dollar insurance fraud. The Tennessean reported that they were connected with the defunct Franklin-based National Foundation of America, which prosecutors say was used to convince investors to trade in insurance annuities for worthless charitable gift annuities. The owners of the company and an

employee were arrested in Tallahassee, Florida. An officer in the company was arrested in Franklin. According to prosecutors, they were all charged with theft for gaining control of \$31 million from customers and using the money for personal expenses, luxury items, vacations and to pay off debts.

Source: <http://www.whnt.com/news/sns-ap-tn--insurancefraud,0,1630502.story>

27. *February 26, Real Estate Economy Watch* – (Florida) **Massive Florida mortgage fraud case unfolding.** A two year FBI investigation into Sarasota house flipping is turning into what may be the largest case of mortgage fraud in Florida's history. A local real estate agent has been providing information to the FBI about one of the largest mortgage fraud schemes in Florida history. One of his longtime associates may become the center of attention as losses enter the millions, according to the Sarasota Herald-Tribune. The associate was in line to become the next president of the Gulf Coast Mortgage Bankers Association but now he's expected to step down or be removed from the board of directors after news reports alleged that he participated in at least 10 deals with the agent since 1997. The agent allegedly participated in dozens of deals in which properties were sold back and forth between associates, inflating values and increasing the loans they could obtain. The agent turned himself in to the FBI two years ago, and his statements to federal agents resulted in a Sarasota title agent's arrest on charges of conspiracy, bank fraud, wire fraud and making false statements in connection with loan applications, court documents filed with the U.S. District Court in Tampa show.

Source: <http://www.upi.com/Real-Estate/2010/02/26/Massive-Florida-Mortgage-Fraud-Case-Unfolding/9831267199939/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

28. *March 1, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **FAA clears wind farm in Somerset County.** The Federal Aviation Administration has determined that a proposed Gamesa Energy USA wind energy project that would put 30 windmills atop an ecologically sensitive ridge on Shaffer Mountain in Somerset County would not create an aviation hazard. The FAA had issued "notices of presumed hazard" in November for 15 of the 404-foot-tall wind turbines, but subsequent aeronautical studies have determined that the structures would not exceed obstruction standards or adversely impact air space and flight routes above the Allegheny Front ridge. The FAA "determination of no hazard" issued January 21 for all 30 of the proposed wind turbines on the 22,000-acre site was announced by Gamesa Wednesday. The Gamesa project developer for the Shaffer Mountain project said the determination is one step in an ongoing permitting process. The controversial wind turbine project has drawn opposition from a local citizens group, Sensible Wind Solutions, the Mountain Laurel Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Allegheny Plateau Audubon Society, because of its proposed location in the watershed of two of the state's highest quality native trout streams and on a major bat and bird migratory route along the Allegheny Front ridge. The state Department of Environmental Protection rejected three permit applications as

incomplete and is considering a fourth. If the project is built, it would have a maximum electric power generation capacity of 66 megawatts, enough to power 30,000 homes.
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10060/1039364-56.stm>

29. *March 1, New York Daily News* – (New York) **JFK Airport’s four-month repair job spells long lines.** Delays at Kennedy Airport are expected to get worse starting Monday when its main runway shuts down for a four-month repair project. About a third of airport traffic - and half of departures - will have to be diverted from the Bay Runway to smaller runways, leading to longer lines on the ground and in the air. Millions of passengers at other airports also will be delayed by the ripple effect from Kennedy bottlenecks this spring. The construction also may spark price hikes for airline tickets. Airlines will have to cut the number of planes flying by about 10 percent, so they might raise prices because there will be fewer seats to meet demand, analysts say. The airport’s massive Bay Runway - at more than 14,500 feet one of the longest in the world - is being repaved with concrete and widened to fit bigger planes. Airport officials are hoping delays on the \$376 million project will be minimal because March through June is the driest period in the city. Kennedy Airport is already near the bottom of the barrel in delays - it ranked 28th out of 31 major airports last year in on-time performance, federal Department of Transportation data show. Airlines are adding cushion time into their schedules so planes won’t arrive officially late as often, but you can still expect about 50-minute delays at peak travel times and an average delay of 30 minutes, the Federal Aviation Administration predicts. Air-traffic controllers will have to learn new patterns without the main runway in operation, which could cause more delays, especially at first.
Source: http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/03/01/2010-03-01_jfk_revamp_spells_long_lines.html

30. *February 28, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **Can new rail depot be safely evacuated?** Designers of NJ Transit’s proposed station to be built 175 feet beneath 34th Street in Manhattan as part of the \$8.7 billion second Hudson River tunnel project say they have tried to prepare for any emergency. But a safety expert said the research on which NJ Transit engineers based some safety designs is 40 years out-of-date and overly optimistic on its estimates of how fast passengers on a station platform hundreds of feet below street level will be able to evacuate to a safe area. “If they’re using data of that period, they’ve got a problem,” said an independent consultant on building use, safety and human movement. His research in the late 1960s formed the basis for current fire safety codes, research he said needs to be done over. That type of research was used by NJ Transit engineers to design a network of stairs, escalators and elevators in the station to meet a standard requiring that everyone on the platform can be evacuated to a place of safety in six minutes. That standard, National Fire Protection Association 130, requires designs that ensure the last person in the station is at the foot of an escalator, staircase or elevator in four minutes, and then, in to a “point of safety” in two minutes. NJ Transit’s proposed deep station will have an upper and lower platform and tracks with a mezzanine level in between them. During an incident, passengers on the two platforms would be evacuated using a total of 28 escalators, 22 extra wide stairways and eight elevators with oversized cars, to a safe zone on the mezzanine, said

NJ Transit's chief of the tunnel project. In the event of an emergency or incident, the mezzanine is designed to be a "point of safety" to which people can be evacuated until they can be moved to street level.

Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100228/NEWS03/2280339/Can-new-rail-depot-be-safely-evacuated>

31. *February 27, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **2 US Airways planes clip wings at National Airport.** Two US Airways planes clipped wings while on the ground Saturday morning at Reagan National Airport. A US Airways spokesman says no one was injured in the incident, which occurred at about 9:30 a.m. However, there was enough damage that Flight 1703 to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, had to be canceled. He says all 143 passengers have been accommodated on other flights. The other plane was a weekend shuttle arriving from LaGuardia. It had 91 passengers on board.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/02/27/1503708/2-us-airways-planes-clip-wings.html>
32. *February 27, Honolulu Star-Bulletin* – (Hawaii) **Hilo, Kahului airports closed, others are open.** Fears of a tsunami caused by Saturday's earthquake in Chile led to emergency measures being enacted across the state of Hawaii. Airport operations were normal across Hawaii Saturday except in Hilo on the Big Island and Kahului, Maui. The Hilo Airport was closed at 6 a.m. and the road going into the Kahului Airport was closed at 10 a.m. Other airports were open but the reef runway was closed at Honolulu Airport. A spokeswoman said the DOT worked with Coast Guard and harbor police early this morning to notify boat owners to leave harbors across the state and most vessels and ground crews left. The DOT's freeway service patrol, which normally does not operate on Saturdays, was reactivated from the University of Hawaii to Waimalu on H1 Freeway and Moanalua because of increased traffic. "If you don't have to be on the road, don't be on the road," she asked, pointing out all roads leading in and out of coastal areas and the inundation zone were closed at 10 a.m. to keep the area clear for people evacuating because of the tsunami.
Source: <http://www.starbulletin.com/news/breaking/85715622.html>
See items [70](#) and [71](#)
33. *February 27, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Massive snow drifts shut down roads across W.Va.** Blowing, drifting snow from yet another blizzard blinded and stranded drivers Friday in mountainous parts of West Virginia, shutting down countless secondary roads as well as major arteries that officials seldom close. The state Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management urged motorists to drive only if necessary as highway crews struggled to get around stranded vehicles to clear roads, and the state parkways authority warned of potential whiteouts along the southern end of the West Virginia Turnpike. Authorities shut down an 18-mile length of West Virginia Route 32 between Davis and Harman in Randolph and Tucker counties. Emergency managers in Preston County warned people to stop aggravating problems by driving around a "road closed" sign on the treacherous Caddell Mountain stretch of Route 7. In Randolph County, U.S. 33 was shut down at Allegany Mountain. "The drifts are 15 feet deep over the roads, and Highways can't move fast enough to keep

them open,” said the emergency manager for Randolph County. “It’s not that they’re not trying. But they plow, and the wind blows it back in right behind them.” National Guard troops were headed there, and to Grant and Mineral counties, where winds as strong as 60 mph were blowing 4-foot drifts over the roads. Both U.S. 50 and W.Va. Route 42 in Mineral County were shut down by midmorning, and the emergency management director said he needed help removing stranded vehicles and motorists. The hard-hit areas are at higher elevations, while low-lying areas have relatively little fresh snow and decent visibility. That deceives people into thinking they can get where they want to go. The situation was similar in Grant County, where a different emergency manager said southern areas got as little as an inch of fresh snow overnight, while residents in the northern and western parts of the county reported 10 inches to 2 feet and zero visibility.

Source: <http://www.dailymail.com/ap/ApTopStories/201002270365>

34. *February 27, Seattle-Tacoma News Tribune* – (Alaska) **Alaska: Woman who hit attendants jailed after forced landing of Tokyo flight.** A woman in an uproar on a trans-Pacific flight caused the jet to divert to Anchorage and forced pilots to jettison some 70,000 pounds of fuel to make the landing, according to court documents. The woman has been jailed in Anchorage on a felony charge of interfering with a flight crew since the February 12 incident. According to an FBI affidavit filed in court, the woman was aboard a Delta Airlines flight from Tokyo to New York when, about 45 minutes into the flight, she began accosting a flight attendant offering beverage service. Flight attendants tried to calm her, but she continued screaming profanities in Japanese and separately hitting four flight attendants before being handcuffed and seat belted in her seat, according to the FBI. She continued to struggle and unbuckled her seat belt several times, prompting flight attendants to set up a 30-minute rotation to watch her, the FBI said. Pilots were forced to dump 70,000 pounds of jet fuel to make the diverted landing in Anchorage, the FBI said.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/02/27/1088763/woman-jailed-over-forced-landing.html>

35. *February 25, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Indiana; Ohio) **Three charged with conspiracy to destroy railroad communication lines.** The United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio Thursday announced the filing of an information charging three men with conspiracy to destroy railroad communication lines. The information alleges that the defendants would cut and steal copper wires along railroad lines in Indiana and Ohio, which wires provided power for the railroad signaling system. The information charges that between January 2006 and January 2008, on approximately 80 occasions, one or more of the defendants stole copper wire totaling 360,000 linear feet of copper wire from railroad right-of-ways, which wire they sold to scrap metal processors. If convicted, the defendants’ sentences will be determined by the Court after review of factors unique to each case, including the defendants’ prior criminal records, if any, the defendants’ roles in the offense and the characteristics of the violation.

Source: <http://cleveland.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel10/cl022510.htm>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [5](#), [8](#), and [50](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

36. *February 28, National Public Radio* – (California) **‘Pesticide drift’ eluding efforts to combat it.** The Environmental Protection Agency is considering a petition from farm worker and public health advocates to ban pesticide spraying near schools, hospitals and child care centers. Part of the evidence they cite comes from California, the nation’s largest agricultural producer, and a state where pesticides carried from the fields by winds sicken hundreds of people each year. A 10-year-old girl and her 8-year-old brother were drenched by pesticides last spring as they stood at their bus stop, a patch of dirt on the edge of a vineyard in central California. The approaching bus driver saw the pesticide clouds and pulled over to prevent the 50 other students from breathing in the fumes. She eventually picked up the two kids. “And then I told the bus driver that I wasn’t feeling good, like I was feeling sick. My head hurt, I wanted to throw up and everything,” the little girl says. School officials called an ambulance, and the kids were sent to the hospital where they were treated for pesticide exposure. They eventually recovered, but nine months later, the Fresno County Agricultural Commission has not issued the fines to the vineyard owner and is still investigating the case. That incident is one of seven “pesticide drift” cases involving school buses in the farm-rich San Joaquin Valley over the last year. “It’s illegal, and we have to do better. Having said that, we do have the human condition to contend with, and mistakes do happen,” a head of California’ Department of Pesticide Regulation says.

Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=123817702>

37. *February 26, Associated Press* – (California) **EPA orders changes at South SF salami plant.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has ordered a South San Francisco meat-processing plant to upgrade its equipment after an ammonia leak from the facility sickened more than two dozen people. The agency said Thursday Columbus Salame must replace safety relief valves and replace all parts that show signs of corrosion within the next three months. The agency says a leak at the building caused by a pressure buildup in a pipe sent 200 pounds of anhydrous ammonia into the air on August 28. Seventeen people were hospitalized and 30 others sought medical attention. A spokesman for Columbus Salame says the company has already started the work ordered by the EPA.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_14476828?nclink_check=1&forced=true

Water Sector

38. *March 1, Fond Du Lac Reporter* – (Wisconsin) **New Berlin settles drinking water lawsuit.** A Milwaukee suburb has agreed to pay a \$45,000 settlement for failing to meet a deadline to provide radium-free drinking water for its citizens. The Wisconsin attorney general announced Wednesday that the City of New Berlin had settled a state lawsuit over drinking water violations. New Berlin buys Lake Michigan water from the City of Milwaukee. The city provided radium-free water to certain customers by the December 2006 deadline, but those in central New Berlin did not get radium-free water pumped to them until July 2009. Local residents may recall that the City of Fond du Lac missed the December 2006 deadline and paid a \$35,000 fine last year to settle a similar suit. Fond du Lac had been moving forward with a plan to mix its well water with surface water from Lake Winnebago when the City Council — following renewed citizen input on the issue — reversed its position and supported a different process to remove radium. The change in plans caused the city to miss the deadline. Fond du Lac's \$32 million upgrade of its water system included \$13 million in radium abatement measures. The city's drinking water is now free of radium, but problems with filters have continued to cause problems.

Source:

<http://www.fdlreporter.com/article/20100301/FON0101/3010345/1985/FONbusiness/New-Berlin-settles-drinking-water-lawsuit>

39. *February 28, Hudson Hub Times* – (Ohio) **City engineer warns sewer problems could lead to EPA fines.** Hudson, Ohio, needs to correct its sanitary sewer problems as soon as possible or face fines from the Environmental Protection Agency, according to its engineering department. Because of problems with clean water getting into the city's sewer lines and sewer water getting into the city's stormwater lines, the at any time EPA can fine the city for overflow violations and deny permits to expand its sanitary sewer system, a city engineer warned Council on February 23. A city utility engineer said the city needs to get serious about inflow and infiltration problems to eliminate clean water from its sanitary sewer system when he made a February 23 presentation to Council members. He said the city has two priorities — close the overflows, and eliminate inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. If the city can reduce inflow and infiltration enough, it can close the overflows, but as long as there remains a chance of backup, they need to remain open, he said. Because the city did not comply with a 1992 EPA consent order to eliminate all of the overflows and bypasses, the city had to close the Hudson wastewater treatment plant on Hines Hill Road in the 1990s and could pay \$5,000 per day for a violation with additional penalties if the EPA chooses to pursue the fines, he warned. Sheridan said the engineering department and public works department are working together and will concentrate on projects the public right of way to correct problems.

Source: <http://www.hudsonhubtimes.com/news/article/4778110>

40. *February 27, San Luis Obispo Tribune* – (California) **Heavy rains trigger Cambria landslide, plus water and sewer break.** Heavy storm rains apparently triggered a landslide in Cambria, California, early Saturday morning that took with it about 50 feet of Pembroke Drive's pavement, a 6-inch water main, 8-inch sewer main and utility poles and service. The water-main break spilled about 200,000 gallons of water, according to representatives of the Cambria Community Services District. The concaved landslide area is approximately 50 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet deep. The slippage took with it about three-quarters of the street width, leaving only enough pavement for an unreliable walkway. Pembroke, a secondary artery for those living in Cambria's Park Hill neighborhood, will be closed to through traffic from Windsor Boulevard to above Bristol Street for the foreseeable future. The superintendent of the district's sewage-treatment plant said road engineers likely would have to assess the damage and draft a plan for fixing the area. It was the third major water-main break since mid-December for the Park Hill neighborhood. The superintendent estimated that less than 1,000 gallons of sewage spilled in the landslide, but the water deluge would have diluted it considerably. The watery cascade also carried yards of dirt down the hill, depositing it against a retaining wall at the nearby sewage plant. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. crews installed temporary lines across the gaping hole to restore power to customers in the area.
Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3903344>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

41. *February 26, St. Charles Chronicle* – (Illinois) **Lawsuit: Patient records leaked through peer-to-peer network.** A class action lawsuit claims an Elgin clinic released confidential information of its patients – including their HIV or AIDS status – over file sharing computer networks. The complaint, filed Thursday against The Open Door Clinic of Greater Elgin, names four people on behalf of “all those similarly situated.” The class action lawsuit goes on to state the class consists of at least 260 people, who are suing on the basis of negligence, invasion of privacy and breach of confidentiality. Information was leaked beginning in late May 2008 – possibly earlier – until at least July 2009, according to the complaint. Clinic officials have been aware of the leak since the summer of 2008, but did not notify patients, according to the complaint.
Source: <http://www.kcchronicle.com/articles/2010/02/26/16209753/index.xml>
42. *February 26, Peoria Journal Star* – (Illinois) **No one hurt in explosion at Kewanee clinic.** No one was hurt in an explosion Friday afternoon at the Kewanee Specialty Clinic in Illinois. The fire and police departments responded shortly after 2 p.m. to the explosion, which the fire chief said appeared to be “gas-related.” The only person in the building at the time was a staffer with Freedom House, which has offices at the rear of the building. She reported the explosion and directed firefighters to the site, in the center of the building. The building, which is owned by Kewanee Hospital, houses dental offices and is used by visiting doctors.

Source: <http://www.pjstar.com/news/x2112775764/No-one-hurt-in-explosion-at-Kewanee-clinic>

43. *February 26, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania; National) **Company recalls mine emergency air packs over problem with oxygen starter; feds investigating.** A breathing device that coal miners count on to save their lives during fires and other accidents is being recalled because of a problem with the oxygen starter. CSE Corp. of Monroeville, Pennsylvania, issued a voluntary recall Friday and suspended production of the SR-100, the most popular self-contained self-rescuer unit in U.S. coal mines. CSE said it is recalling the entire production lot of more than 4,000 units sold to mining companies operating in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Alabama, Ohio, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico. However, it believes the problem may affect less than 1 percent of those units. The federal Mine Safety and Health Administration and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health are investigating.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-us-mine-safety-air-packs,0,2274615.story>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

44. *March 1, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Rep. Wilson: No plot to poison food at Fort Jackson.** An Army probe into allegations of verbal threats involving a base's food supply has revealed that none of the five soldiers detained was involved in any plot to poison food at the base, a congressman said Sunday. A congressman from South Carolina said Sunday information he received as a member of the House Armed Services Committee showed there was no plot. The five Muslim soldiers who were connected to a translator training program had been detained in December while the Army investigated. "The investigation revealed that there was not an effort to poison food," the congressman said. The probe also showed the men had not been disloyal. Four of the soldiers were discharged from the Army for petty crimes, the congressman said, and the fifth was returned to his National Guard unit in Virginia. None of the soldiers has been identified. A U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command spokesman said Sunday that the base's food was never in danger, and the investigation did not turn up any credible information to support the allegations. An investigation continues into other possible crimes relating to information found on their laptops, the congressman said. The laptops were turned over to the FBI for analysis. Neither the spokesman nor the congressman would elaborate on the ongoing investigation.

Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2010/mar/01/rep-wilson-no-plot-poison-food-fort-jackson/>

45. *March 1, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Hazmat crews called to Utah IRS building.** Hazardous materials crews have been called to an Internal Revenue Service building in Ogden, Utah. Media reports said a suspicious substance was found in the building Monday and that part of it was evacuated while other parts were locked down.

Several emergency vehicles were outside the building. Video on the Web site of KSL-TV showed two people being taken out on stretchers. The FBI was involved in the investigation but said it did not have any information to release. The Weber County sheriff's office said it had no information on the incident. The two- or three-story building is in an industrial area and is surrounded by a fence in Ogden, about 35 miles north of Salt Lake City. No signs on the building indicate it is an IRS facility.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5h-jWmAd7lmAzNcxUE9gDXq9c3BCwD9E639S80>

46. *March 1, Daily Nexus* – (California) **Bash ends with fire, vandalism.** A protest condemning tuition fee increases turned violent when hundreds of demonstrators at UC Berkeley transformed a flash mob dance party into a riot. Roughly 200 demonstrators gathered in UC Berkeley's Upper Sproul Plaza on the evening of February 25 for a dance party aimed to rally support for an upcoming nationwide protest supporting public education set for March 4. Attendees then occupied a campus building and by 1:30 a.m. had flooded the streets of downtown Berkeley. Rioters clashed with police and vandalized public property, breaking windows and setting trashcans and dumpsters on fire. Officials said protesters also hurled rocks and bottles during the altercation. The riot was met by roughly two dozen UC Police Department and Berkeley Police Department officers, who managed to control the raging crowd by 3:30 a.m. February 26. Two protesters — a current UCB student and an alumnus — were arrested that night, the Daily Californian reported.

Source: <http://www.dailynexus.com/article.php?a=20362>

47. *February 27, CNET News* – (National) **Pentagon OKs social media access.** The Defense Department has made its peace with social media. Long skittish about forums such as Facebook and Twitter, the U.S. Department of Defense says that it is now OK with social-networking services and other interactive Web 2.0 applications. A memorandum released February 26 makes it official policy that the agency's nonclassified network will be configured to provide access to Internet-based capabilities across all Defense components, including the various combat branches. That is not to say that the Pentagon is embracing all of the free-wheeling nature of blogs, tweets, and online video. Soldiers, sailors, and airmen will still be expected to refrain from activities that could compromise military actions or undercut readiness.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-10461003-93.html

48. *February 27, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Bunning's offices checked for bomb after threats received.** Two of a U.S. Senator's Kentucky offices have been checked after bomb threats were received, but nothing was found. The Senator's office in Louisville was checked after the threat. In Hazard, a threat was made on the William D. Gorman Educational Center, which includes the offices of Senator and a U.S. Representative. A Louisville FBI spokesman says nothing was found in either case but the matter is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wave3.com/Global/story.asp?S=12056561>

49. *February 27, Huntsville Times* – (Alabama) **Redstone Arsenal officials aren't sure why man crashed truck into Gate 9.** Redstone Arsenal officials said this afternoon they're not sure why a man crashed his Chevrolet S10 into a concrete bollard at Gate 9 early today. The man, identified as a 39-year-old, died in the crash. No one else was injured in the 4:30 a.m. wreck, said the base commander. The suspect was coming at the gate "at an excessive speed" when he crashed into one of the concrete bollards between the first and second entrance lanes. The truck barreled toward the gate so fast that security did not have time to respond. "He was going at such a rate of speed that they could do nothing to stop him," the base commander said. The base commander said the suspect, who was from Vinemont, was not an employee of the Arsenal. It is also unclear why the suspect was on Rideout Road so early. "We're not entirely sure he was trying to enter the gates," the base commander said. "I can't comment too much except to say it's under investigation." The FBI and Redstone Arsenal police are looking into the accident.

Source: http://blog.al.com/breaking/2010/02/redstone_arsenal_officials_are.html

50. *February 26, NWF Daily News* – (Florida) **Bomb threat called into Hurlburt Field Friday morning.** Someone called in a bomb threat to Hurlburt Field Friday. The threat was received at 10:45 a.m. and the back gate was shut down, according to a base spokesman. No explosives were found, and the gate was reopened at 1:30 p.m., the base spokesman said. No further information about the bomb scare was immediately available.

Source: <http://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/hurlburt-26273-bomb-field.html>

51. *February 26, Seattle-Tacoma News Tribune* – (California) **Kennewick man pleads innocent in college threat.** A Kennewick, Washington, man who bitterly left his job six years ago at University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), pleaded innocent Thursday to allegations he threatened "the mother of all wars" on the college campus, its faculty and students. The suspect, 51, is accused of sending e-mails to college officials and posting hundreds of online "rants" since January 2007, all talking about how he wanted revenge for his forced resignation and his inability to secure another job since 2004. He moved to the Tri-Cities after opting to quit, instead of being fired as an engineer in the school's nonfabrication lab.

Source: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/2010/02/26/1087381/kennewick-man-pleads-innocent.html>

For more stories, see items [10](#) and [68](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

52. *March 28, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (National) **St. Tammany jail escape hatch a problem in other prisons.** A wide-ranging review of the St. Tammany Parish jail is under way and early indications suggest that features exploited in an accused murderer's escape last week are common among correctional facilities and could be

more difficult to address than originally expected. Correcting the problems that led to the jail-break, the second at the Covington facility in less than a year, is the primary focus of the review, the sheriff said. Because the review is still in its early stages, he said he did not want to speculate about how much work was needed to secure the jail. However, he said the process was likely to be far more complex and involve more work than he had anticipated. The panel reviewing the facility includes design and construction experts assembled by Richard Lambert Consulting, which oversaw the building of the jail, representatives of the Parish Council and Covington City Council, a representative of the parish president and officials from the Sheriff's Office. The panel has been asked to do a thorough review of the jail, examining both last week's escape and a previous break-out in which four men accused of murder or attempted murder escaped from the jail's older wing by exploiting flaws in the installation of a window in a cell. Initial recommendations will be made next week and the final report will cover all aspects of the jail, including its design, construction and staffing.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/crime/index.ssf/2010/02/st_tammany_jail_escape_hatch_a.html

53. *March 1, Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* – (New York) **Police cameras in Rochester get smarter.** Rochester, new York, police surveillance cameras have started getting a lot smarter, with software that can recognize hand-to-hand transfers of a drug deal, pan to the sound of gunfire or follow a fleeing suspect. And, given problems with teens brawling at the Liberty Pole downtown, the nearest camera will count the number of people congregating and alert police if crowds reach a certain number. Or, if a group begins running to or from the scene. Nearly two years after the Rochester Police Department launched its surveillance program, the city has 100 cameras with 20 more being deployed. With so many video channels, police are turning to sophisticated computer software to help monitor the video. The software is licensed for eight cameras, so far. Software installation and training began last week.

Source:

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/article/20100301/NEWS01/3010326/1002/NEWS/Police-cameras-in-Rochester-get-smarter>

54. *February 28, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **La. to create emergency center for businesses.** Louisiana will set up an emergency operations center to better coordinate private business and state emergency response during disasters. The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness said the Business Emergency Operations Center in Baton Rouge will open in time for hurricane season. The center will be staffed with representatives from 18 business sectors such as energy providers, banking, transportation, communication, postal services and commercial facilities. The B-EOC would be at an LSU site during a hurricane or other emergency.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20100228/APN/302289706>

55. *February 27, San Mateo County Times* – (California) **Palo Alto police evacuate station after man brings in pipe bomb for disposal.** Palo Alto, California, police evacuated their own headquarters and closed a nearby portion of the downtown Thursday evening after a resident brought in a pipe bomb he wanted police to dispose

of. The device, a 6-inch plastic pipe with its ends capped was on the man's property, according to police official. While the exact details are not clear, she said the man's son may have built it several years ago as a teen, and his father was concerned it could be dangerous. Police had the same concern. When the man arrived at the police station, officers told him to leave the device, wrapped in a plastic bag, on a bench near the front door of the police lobby. Police promptly evacuated the Forest Street side of the department and closed the downtown library, located nearby. The bomb squad arrived at about 5:30 and determined the device was in fact a live pipe bomb. Sheriff's deputies safely detonated the device.

Source:

http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_14483771?source=rss

56. *February 26, U.S. Government Accountability Office* – (National) **Combating nuclear terrorism: Actions needed to better prepare to recover from possible attacks using radiological or nuclear materials.** A terrorist's use of a radiological dispersal device (RDD) or improvised nuclear device (IND) to release radioactive materials into the environment could have devastating consequences. GAO was asked to examine the extent to which the federal government is planning to fulfill its responsibilities to help cities and their states clean up contaminated areas from RDD and IND incidents, what is known about the federal government's capability to effectively clean up these contaminated areas, and for suggestions for improving federal preparedness to help cities and states recover from these incidents. Its report also discusses recovery activities in the United Kingdom. GAO reviewed federal laws and guidance; interviewed officials from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Energy (DOE), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and surveyed emergency management officials from 13 cities at high risk of attack, their 10 states, and FEMA and EPA regional offices. The report found that FEMA, the DHS agency responsible for developing a comprehensive emergency management system, has not developed a national disaster recovery strategy, as required by law, or issued specific guidance to coordinate federal, state, and local government recovery planning for RDD and IND incidents, as directed by executive guidance. To date, most federal attention has been given to developing a response framework, with less attention to recovery.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/htext/d10204.html>

57. *February 26, U.S. Government Accountability Office* – (National) **Emergency preparedness: FEMA faces challenges integrating community preparedness programs into its strategic approach.** By law, FEMA is to develop a National Preparedness System (NPS) that includes community preparedness programs. These programs account for less than 0.5 percent of FEMA's budget. They include the Citizen Corps Program (CCP) and partner programs, e.g., Fire Corps, which provide volunteers to assist first responders. FEMA's Ready Campaign promotes preparedness through mass media. GAO was asked to review federal efforts to promote community preparedness. GAO was asked to address challenges, if any, FEMA faces in measuring the performance of CCP, its partner programs, and the Ready Campaign, and actions, if any, FEMA has taken to develop a strategy to encompass how these programs are to

operate within the context of the NPS. GAO analyzed documents on preparedness plans and strategies and compared reported performance data with observations during 12 site visits, selected primarily on the basis of major disasters. While not projectable, the results add insight. GAO found that FEMA faces challenges measuring performance for CCP, its partner programs, and the Ready Campaign because it relies on states to verify data for local program units and it is unable to control the distribution of the Ready Campaign messages or measure whether the messages are changing the behavior of individuals.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/htext/d10193.html>

58. *February 25, KGO 7 San Francisco* – (California) **Gang officers again targeted by booby-trap.** The gang enforcement unit in the desert city of Hemet was on high alert Thursday after a bizarre booby trap sent a bullet whizzing past an officer in what authorities said was the second attack in two months at a building used by the task force. The gang officer escaped injury Tuesday from the single shot triggered as he rolled up a booby-trapped security fence at the building, a police spokesman said. “It was obviously designed to kill or injure an officer, had it gone off exactly as intended,” he said. He described the device as a modified weapon designed to fire a single handgun-caliber bullet. The shot missed because the officer was standing to the side of the fence instead of in front of it as he pulled it open. Hemet, a foreclosure-stricken city located in Riverside County’s San Jacinto Valley with a population of about 75,000, has seen an upswing in gang membership in recent years. On December 31, someone drilled a hole in the roof of the gang task force building and diverted a natural gas line from a heater into the facility. The line was discovered before anyone was hurt, even though an electrical spark — even from turning on a light switch — might have ignited the gas. The device in Tuesday’s incident was being examined. There was no video security footage of the building.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/state&id=7298291>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

59. *March 26, The Register* – (International) **Microsoft warns over rogue Security Essentials.** Microsoft has warned Windows users to be on their guard against a piece of rogue antivirus software passing itself off as Microsoft Security Essentials. Security essentials 2010 is a piece of software Microsoft said installs a fake virus scanner on your machine and monitors and blocks processes it doesn’t like. The software will also block access to websites of antivirus and malware companies and flag up a warning message. You can see the list of blocked sites here. Security essentials 2010 blocks access by downloading a Win32/Alureon component and another Layered Service Provider component, a researcher for Microsoft wrote on the company’s Malware Protection Center blog. Adding insult to injury, Security essentials 2010 charges you to scan and remove files on your machine, claiming the version you will have initially downloaded is just a trial edition. Microsoft’s Security Essentials is available without

charge to PC users running a genuine copy of Windows.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/02/26/microsoft_security_essentials_rogue/

60. *March 1, The Register* – (International) **Most resistance to ‘Aurora’ hack attacks futile, says report.** Most businesses are defenseless against the types of attacks that recently hit Google and at least 33 other companies, according to a report to be published Monday that estimates the actual number of targeted companies could top 100. The attackers behind the cyber assault dubbed Aurora patiently stalked their hand-chosen victims over a matter of months in a campaign to identify specific end users and applications that could be targeted to gain entry to corporate networks, the report, prepared by security firm iSec Partners, concluded. Emails or instant messages that appeared to come from friends and trusted colleagues were combined with potent zero-day vulnerabilities targeting common applications. In many cases, exploits were tweaked to circumvent specific versions of anti-virus programs. The findings are significant because they suggest that many of the best practices corporate IT departments have been following for years are ineffective against the attacks, which Google said were successful at piercing its defenses and accessing its trade secrets. A iSec founding partner said that with the exception of Google and a handful of other organizations with budgets to support expensive information security teams, companies are unprepared to defend themselves against this new caliber of attacks.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/01/aurora_resistence_futile/

61. *March 1, DarkReading* – (International) **State of application security: nearly 60 percent of Apps fail first security test.** Even with all of the emphasis on writing software with security in mind, most software applications remain riddled with security holes, according to a new report released today about the actual security quality of all types of software. Around 58 percent of the applications tested by application security testing service provider Veracode in the past year-and-a-half failed to achieve a successful rating in their first round of testing. “The degree of failure to meet acceptable standards on first submission is astounding — and this is coming from folks who care enough to submit their software to our [application security testing] services,” said the senior vice president of marketing for Veracode. “The implication here is that more than half of all applications are susceptible to the kinds of vulnerabilities we saw at Heartland, Google, DoD, and others — these were all application-layer attacks.” The data for Veracode’s State of Software Security Report comes from a combination of static, dynamic, and manual testing of all types of software across multiple programming languages — everything from non-Web and Web applications to components and shared libraries. Veracode tests commercial, internally developed, open-source, and outsourced applications, all of which were represented in its findings. And nearly 90 percent of internally developed applications contained vulnerabilities in the SANS Top 25 and OWASP Top 10 lists of most common programming errors and flaws in the first round of tests, the vice president said.

Source: http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=223100875

62. *March 1, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Grum and Rustock botnets drive spam to new levels.** Two highly active botnets have pushed spam levels up by five per cent this month, according to security firm Symantec. The company's MessageLabs branch, now called Symantec Hosted Services, said in a new report that spam accounted for 89.4 percent of email traffic in February, an increase of 5.5 per cent over last month. Much of the gain was attributed to a 51 percent increase in spam activity from the Grum botnet, making it accountable for more than a quarter of all spam. The Rustock botnet was also blamed for the increase in junk mail. MessageLabs said that the botnet sprang to life on February 17 with a huge pharmaceutical spam run that boosted daily spam levels by 25 percent. There was some good news, however. Instances of malware-laden spam messages rose by just 0.02 percent, despite the climb in overall spam levels, while instances of phishing spam rose just 0.04 percent.
Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2258689/pair-botnets-drive-spam-levels>

63. *March 1, NBC New York* – (National) **FBI.** Those squiggly letters that can be almost impossible to read when you buy tickets or some other items online have apparently met their match with some West Coast ticket buyers. NBCNewYork.com has learned a U.S. Attorney's news conference in Newark, New Jersey, later on March 1 will announce several arrests of scalpers who were able to defeat the system Ticketmaster uses: "CAPTCHA." "CAPTCHA" is a cyber security system where you have to type in a match of letters and/or numbers from a distorted or garbled display. The intention is, in the case of Ticketmaster, to restrict sales to a concert or other event to, usually, no more than two or four tickets per customer. The U.S. Attorney's office says that four individuals who, through their company called "Wiseguys," engaged in a \$25 million fraud and computer hacking scheme to obtain and resell more than 1.5 million highly coveted tickets to events nationwide, including tickets to performances by famous musicians, the 2006 BCS Championship Game, and 2007 Major League Baseball playoff games at Yankee Stadium. According to the indictment, Wiseguys employed 10 to 15 people between 2002 and January 2009. The company allegedly deployed a nationwide computer network that opened thousands of simultaneous Internet connections from across the United States, impersonated thousands of individual ticket buyers and defeated online ticket vendors' security systems. Wiseguys then sold the tickets that it bought fraudulently over the Internet to ticket brokers in New Jersey and elsewhere, who in turn sold the tickets to the general public, the indictment says. The company allegedly profited from the scheme by charging its ticket brokers a percentage mark-up over the face value of the tickets it obtained.
Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/Ticket-Scalpers-Defeat-Latest-Cyber-Security-85808497.html>

64. *February 28, ComputerWorld* – (International) **New zero-day involves IE, puts Windows XP users at risk.** Microsoft on Sunday confirmed it's investigating an unpatched bug in VBScript that hackers could exploit to plant malware on Windows XP machines running Internet Explorer (IE). The flaw could be used by attackers to inject malicious code onto victims' PCs, said the Polish security analyst with iSEC Security Research who revealed the vulnerability and posted attack code on February 26. Microsoft noted it's already on the case. "Microsoft is investigating new public

claims of a vulnerability involving the use of VBScript and Windows Help files within Internet Explorer,” said a senior manager with the Microsoft Security Response Center (MSRC), in an e-mail on February 28. “The current state of our investigations shows that Windows Vista, Windows 7 , Windows Server 2008, and Windows Server 2008 R2, are not affected.” The senior manager added that Microsoft has not yet seen any evidence of attacks exploiting the vulnerability. The security analyst called the bug a “logic flaw,” and said attackers could exploit it by feeding users malicious code disguised as a Windows help file — such files have a “.hlp” extension — then convincing them to press the F1 key when a pop-up appeared. He rated the vulnerability as “medium” because of the required user interaction.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/030110-new-zero-day-involves-ie-puts.html?hpg1=bn>

65. *February 28, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Microsoft to target other botnets with legal weapon.** Microsoft has several other botnets in its crosshairs, and believes it can use the same legal tactic against them that it deployed last week to strike at the Waledac botnet’s command-and-control centers. But the company also admitted that it had not yet severed all communications between the controllers of Waledac and the thousands of compromised Windows computers used by hackers to pitch bogus security software and send a small amount of spam. “This shows it can be done,” said the senior attorney with Microsoft’s Digital Crimes Unit. “Each botnet is different, of course, but this is another arrow in the quiver. This is not the last [effort].... We have other operations on the drawing board.” On February 24, Microsoft announced that it had been granted a court order that yanked nearly 300 sites from the Internet. Those sites, Microsoft said, were a key link between hackers and the PCs that make up the Waledac botnet. The legal tactic, which garnered accolades from many security professionals as a precedent-setting move, resulted in what Microsoft called “a major botnet takedown” of Waledac, a fact that some researchers disputed.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/022810-microsoft-to-target-other-botnets.html?hpg1=bn>

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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

66. *March 1, Washington Post* – (National) **Misdials help ‘crammers’ ring up millions in phone bill scam.** Two brothers made a devilish fortune in the details of phone bills, according to a federal investigation. The San Francisco brothers hired overseas telemarketers to offer directory assistance and other services to small businesses and

ordinary Americans, according to a major case to be unveiled this week by the Federal Trade Commission. But their real goal was to sneak small, unauthorized fees onto thousands of monthly bills and hope the charges would go unnoticed, court documents state. The scheme, known as “cramming,” proved to be a boon, the documents show. The brothers alleged take: \$19 million over five years. The brothers are among a resurgent wave of crammers who may be ensnaring millions of Americans, federal officials and consumer advocates say. A decade ago, the scam was so widespread that it became one of the most profitable business lines of the Gambino crime family. A wave of federal and state crackdowns pushed the crime into remission. But as phone bills, both conventional and cellular, have become more complex, crammers are making a comeback by using sophisticated marketing techniques and by launching their schemes from overseas to try to escape the purview of U.S. regulators.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/02/28/AR2010022803750.html>

67. *March 1, IDG News Service* – (International) **Glitch hits PlayStation Network users worldwide.** Sony’s PlayStation Network has been hit by a glitch that has left users on all continents unable to connect to the online service, the company said on March 1. The PlayStation Network is an Internet-based service that connects PlayStation 3 consoles to online stores, software downloads and is used as a platform for some multiplayer online games. It has about 38 million users worldwide. The problem appears to be affecting only the older PlayStation 3 consoles and not the newer so-called “slim” models that were recently launched, according to messages on Twitter. First reports of the problem began appearing online at around 4pm PST (midnight GMT, March 1) on February 28, and acknowledgment came from Sony’s U.S. unit in the form of a blog and Twitter posting.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9163338/Glitch_hits_PlayStation_Network_users_worldwide

68. *March 1, Data Center Knowledge* – (National) **Feds commence huge data center consolidation.** The federal government has begun what looms as the largest data center consolidation in history, hoping to dramatically reduce IT operations that are currently distributed among more than 1,100 data centers. On February 26 a Federal CIO outlined details of the ambitious plan in a memo that directs federal agencies to prepare an inventory of the IT assets by April 30 and develop a preliminary data center consolidation plan by June 30. These plans will need to be finalized by December 31, 2010, with implementation beginning in 2011. The government data center consolidation has huge implications for the fortunes of system integrators, data center service providers (especially in northern Virginia), and cloud computing platforms optimized for hosting government apps. The consolidation effort figures to generate significant business for companies providing energy efficiency tools and consulting, as the CIO signaled that reducing energy costs will be a driving force in the effort. He noted that the number of government data centers soared from 432 in 1999 to the current 1,100 plus.

Source: <http://www.datacenterknowledge.com/archives/2010/03/01/feds-commence-huge-data-center-consolidation/>

[[Return to top](#)]

Commercial Facilities Sector

69. *March 27, World Entertainment News Network* – (Florida) **Bomb squad called to Osbourne event.** A bomb squad rushed to a book signing on February 26 after a man was caught with homemade fireworks in his backpack. The musician was signing copies of his autobiography when police officers spotted a man allegedly smoking marijuana at the event in a Barnes & Noble bookstore in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. The man ran off after the authorities approached him, but they later caught him and found what appeared to be homemade fireworks in his backpack, as well as a quantity of marijuana. A bomb squad was then called to the scene to dispose of the combustible materials, reports CBS news. The man is now facing drug possession charges, according to a police spokesperson.
Source: <http://www.pr-inside.com/bomb-squad-called-to-osbourne-event-r1746116.htm>
70. *March 1, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Tourism industry official: state did well.** Hawaii's visitor industry officials said the state and counties performed very well during the tsunami warning. While Waikiki hotels evacuated guests to the third floor and above on Saturday, various tourism agencies ran emergency operations at the Hawaii Convention Center. Tourists just arriving in Hawaii during the warning even took refuge at the center. "We actually ended up having tourists coming in late from the planes, stay at the convention center," said the CEO of the Hawaii Tourism Authority. "We got them off taxis and rent-a-cars. We had them park in the building and we hosted them for about an hour and a half until we got the all-clear sign." Hawaii Tourism Authority CEO said the worldwide coverage Hawaii received during the tsunami warning demonstrated that Hawaii is prepared and that it cares about the safety and health of visitors.
Source: <http://www.kitv.com/money/22703791/detail.html>
See items [32](#) and [71](#)
71. *February 27, Associated Press* – (California) **Tsunami hits California, no injuries or damage.** Tsunami waves from Chile's deadly earthquake hit California shores Saturday, barely eliciting notice from surfers who ignored advice to stay away from beaches. No injuries or significant property damage were reported. The West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center said water surged 2.3 feet in Santa Monica shortly before 12:30 p.m. and 2.9 feet in Santa Barbara shortly after 5 p.m. The tsunami hit with less force in other areas. A tsunami advisory for all of the California coast was canceled at about 8 p.m. The Coast Guard recommended that people in San Diego avoid going near beaches or other low-lying coastal areas, especially jetties and rocky areas. A spokesperson for San Diego Lifeguard Services said there were unusual tidal surges in Mission Bay and La Jolla Cove, two popular tourist spots. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office closed beaches in Pacifica and Half Moon Bay. A road at the southern end of the Golden Gate Bridge was closed for about a half-hour when high

waves came crashing in, said a spokesperson for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. No damage was reported along the 60 miles of coastline the National Park Service manages as part of the recreation area. The tsunami advisory did not deter surfers competing in a qualifying match of a Professional Longboards Association contest at San Diego's Ocean Beach. Organizers monitored the tsunami's progress. Source: http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_us_quake_tsunami_calif.html
See items [32](#) and [70](#)

72. *February 26, Idaho Statesman* – (Idaho) **Police destroy small pipe bomb in Boise Bench.** Police shut down a Boise Bench neighborhood Friday afternoon after finding a small pipe bomb in an apartment on the 1600 block of Taggart Street shortly after 4 p.m. Police were investigating an associate of a 37-year-old man. This man eluded Garden City police during a Tuesday chase. He was arrested Wednesday in Mountain Home and police found a pipe bomb in his vehicle. Boise police had earlier found explosives in his driveway. After finding what they described as a 3-inch pipe bomb Friday, police shut down a one-block radius and evacuated other residents in the apartment building. A robot removed and destroyed the device, said a Boise police lieutenant. Police cleared the scene about 6:30 p.m., the lieutenant said. The apartment residents were cooperative and will likely not be charged, he said. The man is charged as a felon in possession of a weapon. The FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is working with Boise police on the investigation, the lieutenant said.
Source: <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2010/02/26/1097459/police-destroy-small-pipe-bomb.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

73. *March 1, Associated Press* – (National) **AP Impact: Drug gangs taking over US public lands.** Not far from Yosemite's waterfalls and in the middle of California's redwood forests, Mexican drug gangs are quietly commandeering U.S. public land to grow millions of marijuana plants and using smuggled immigrants to cultivate them. Pot has been grown on public lands for decades, but Mexican traffickers have taken it to a whole new level: using armed guards and trip wires to safeguard sprawling plots that in some cases contain tens of thousands of plants offering a potential yield of more than 30 tons of pot a year. "Just like the Mexicans took over the methamphetamine trade, they've gone to mega, monster gardens," said a supervisor for the California Department of Justice's Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. He said Mexican traffickers have "supersized" the marijuana trade. Local, state and federal agents found about a million more pot plants each year between 2004 and 2008, and authorities say an estimated 75 percent to 90 percent of the new marijuana farms can be linked to Mexican gangs. In 2008 alone, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration, police across the country confiscated or destroyed 7.6 million plants from about 20,000 outdoor plots. Growing marijuana in the U.S. saves traffickers the risk and expense of smuggling their product across the border and allows gangs to produce their crops

closer to local markets. About the only risk to the Mexican growers, experts say, is that a stray hiker or hunter could stumble onto a hidden field.

Source:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D9E5SA5G0.html>

74. *February 28, KLEW 3 Lewiston* – (Idaho) **Tribe concerned about cultural site vandalism.** Nez Perce County Sheriff's Office officials say they have persons of interest in the vandalism of Native American pictographs at Hells Gate State Park. "An officer went out on Thursday morning with the Corps of Engineers and Hells Gate rangers, the FBI and Tribal Police and that's when we found graffiti or painting on the rock walls which contain the pictographs." The graffiti, at a site called Hen and Chicks, includes various marijuana messages, peace signs and other symbols. The sheriff's office is running names and initials through their database. A spokesman for the sheriff's office said this led them to become interested in some possible suspects, but they are still looking for more information. He said those responsible could face federal charges. "It's on reservation land," he said. "We are dealing with national artifacts. The difference between a misdemeanor and a felony is a dollar amount and how you put a dollar amount on pictographs and trying to remove the paint and not destroy them, that's where we are kind of in a quandary at this point."

Source: <http://www.klewtv.com/news/local/85597097.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

75. *February 28, Oregon Statesman Journal* – (Oregon) **FBI seeks to identify men who took photos of Detroit Dam.** The FBI said Saturday, February 28 that agents are trying to learn the identities of nine men who were photographed taking pictures of Detroit Dam on February 14. An FBI spokeswoman said the Portland office received photographs that were taken by a worker at the dam. The worker thought that men photographing the dam appeared suspicious, and the worker's photographs of the men were turned over to local authorities before they were handed over to the FBI, according to a story originally published in the Albany Democrat-Herald. The Democrat-Herald described the men as being of "Middle Eastern" descent. "A worker at the dam took pictures of the people taking pictures," she said Saturday. "We are in possession of the [worker's] photos ... We are interested in identifying" the men in the photos. Anyone who saw the men or who knows who they are or who they might be is asked to contact the FBI office.

Source: <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/article/20100228/NEWS/2280350/1001>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to NICCRports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

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

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

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.