



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 8 March 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- The Washington Post reports that a California man who calmly opened fire on two police officers at an entrance to the Pentagon Thursday appears to have acted alone and was not connected to any terrorist plot, the Pentagon police chief said. The Associated Press reports that the Pentagon Metro station reopened a day after the incident. (See items [18](#) and [40](#))
- According to the Associated Press, students carried out raucous rallies on college campuses nationwide March 4 in protests against deep education cuts that turned violent as demonstrators threw punches and ice chunks in Wisconsin and blocked university gates and smashed car windows in California. Protesting students also shut down the I-880 freeway in Oakland. (See items [21](#) and [41](#))

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### Energy Sector

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

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

1. *March 4, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Work resumes at WV mine following evacuation for atmospheric conditions.** Patriot Coal Corp. has resumed production at

its Federal No. 2 mine near Fairview. St. Louis-based Patriot said late on March 3 its improved ventilation plan was approved by federal regulators. The mine shut down February 18 after dangerous atmospheric conditions were detected in a sealed area. Federal mine safety rules require action if methane levels in sealed areas reach explosive ranges. The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) adopted the rule after a January 2006 explosion at the Sago Mine trapped and ultimately killed 12 men. The Chief Executive says maintaining a safe environment will be Patriot's highest priority. MSHA is currently investigating the alleged falsification of safety inspection reports at the Federal mine.

Source: <http://www.whsv.com/westvirginiaap/headlines/86351632.html>

2. *March 4, Associated Press* – (National) **Coal company asks judge to intervene with gov't.** A coal company has asked a federal judge to block mining regulators from what it calls abusive oversight and "arbitrary and capricious" citations driven by a quota — claims the regulators flatly deny. American Coal Co., in an amended lawsuit filed Wednesday against the U.S. Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration, contends that an MSHA inspector told the company's managers in late 2007 that his superiors had told him to issue .4 violations per inspection hour. An MSHA spokeswoman said the agency did not have citation quotas. American Coal contends that the number of citations MSHA issued jumped from 145,000 in 2007 to 175,000 in 2009, and that many of the citations were unfounded and that they detract from "the legitimate safety measures that are rightly compelled" by federal mine-safety laws. The company argues that the percentage of citations that mine operators challenged jumped from 7.4 percent in 2006 — or about 10,000 citations — to an average of just over 25 percent per year in 2008 and 2009, involving more than 46,000 citations each year. That influx has created a backlog of roughly 82,000 contested violations totaling \$210 million in possible penalties pending before an administrative review panel, American Coal alleges.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9E82ITG4.htm>

3. *March 3, WNEP 16 Scranton* – (Pennsylvania) **Heavy equipment vandalized.** Police in Schuylkill County want to catch up with vandals who caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in damage to some valuable equipment. Police said vandals drove a \$500,000 excavator over a cliff the weekend of February 27. "From what we can see the machine is totaled. There is a lot of hydraulic components that are involved with the machine. From we're able to tell right now the machine is a total loss," said an employee with Reading Anthracite Company. The wrecked \$500,000 machine is just the latest in a wave of vandalism that has hit Reading Anthracite. "It's never been this serious with this kind of loss. We've experienced broken windows, they tamper with the machinery and stuff, set off fire extinguishers but nothing this severe," said another employee with Reading Anthracite. The company said the vandal knew exactly what to do. "You need to be a trained operator to operate a machine like this. You need to know the controls and the keys were not in the machine. We remove all our keys. Someone apparently had a key and you clearly see they were able to drive it where they went over the bank," he added. Reading Anthracite is offering a \$5,000 reward leading to the arrest and conviction of the vandal.

Source: <http://www.wnep.com/news/countybycounty/wnep-schyl-mining-excavator-vandalized,0,6813990.story>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *March 4, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Chemical spill tying up traffic, delaying school buses.** Emergency officials said today that two people were injured in a wreck that caused a chemical spill at 9804 West U.S. 290, at the intersection of Oliver Street in Southwest Austin. The two people were taken to University Medical Center Brackenridge with non-life threatening injuries, officials with Austin Travis County Emergency Medical Services said. Officials said all east and west bound lanes of U.S. 290 from Oliver Street to the “Y” at Oak Hill were closed to traffic at 4:40 p.m. All lanes were re-opened about an hour later. Emergency officials said an 18-wheeler carrying chlorine was involved in the wreck, but no other information was immediately available. The snarled traffic caused delays for Austin school district bus drivers who had to take alternate routes.

Source: [http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/blotter/entries/2010/03/04/chemical\\_spill\\_tying\\_up\\_traffi.html?cxntfid=blogs\\_the\\_blotter](http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/blotter/entries/2010/03/04/chemical_spill_tying_up_traffi.html?cxntfid=blogs_the_blotter)

For another story, see item [24](#)

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

5. *March 4, Daily Pilot* – (California) **Locals practice nuclear meltdown drill.** In a drill to rehearse how the county would respond to a disaster, a group of Orange County residents gathered Wednesday at the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa, waiting to walk through radiation detectors to see if they had been contaminated by fallout from the San Onofre nuclear power plant. Firefighters and sheriff’s deputies stood by to direct people toward designated processing areas — one for those who had been exposed to radiation and needed to be decontaminated, and another for the ones who escaped the fallout. Wednesday’s drill, which involved about 140 people — including about 40 volunteers serving as evacuees — was a dress rehearsal for a March 23 exercise that will be evaluated by federal officials. Observers from the Federal Emergency Management Agency were on hand Wednesday to give feedback ahead of the formal evaluation. The federal government requires every county with a nuclear power plant to have a disaster plan and practice the plan every few years. In the case of Orange County, that plan calls for those living within a 10-mile radius of the San Onofre plant — some 180,000 people — to evacuate. An estimated 20 percent of those would end up at a county evacuation center set up at the fairgrounds.

Source: <http://www.dailypilot.com/articles/2010/03/04/publicsafety/dpt-drill030510.txt>

6. *March 3, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **NIST fined \$10,000 over 2008 plutonium spill in Boulder.** The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has agreed to pay a \$10,000 fine and implement a series of corrective actions as the result of a plutonium contamination spill at NIST's Boulder facility on June 9, 2008, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced late Tuesday. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission said that in addition to the fine, a former radiation safety officer at the NIST Boulder facility will be prohibited from engaging in any NRC-licensed activities for one year for "deliberate misconduct" involving failure to provide complete and accurate information to the NRC. The NRC said that it appeared the former NIST radiation safety officer deliberately failed to provide complete and accurate information to the NRC in a 2007 license amendment application. "This misinformation and misconduct led to the plutonium spill that later followed," said the NRC. The NRC said the settlement with NIST was reached under the NRC's alternative dispute resolution process, which was initiated at the request of NIST. The objective was to reach a preliminary settlement agreement and address 10 apparent violations identified in an inspection report after the spill, said the NRC. At the time of the plutonium spill, NIST was conducting a project to enhance the United States' ability to detect "dirty bombs." Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/headlines/ci\\_14504525](http://www.denverpost.com/headlines/ci_14504525)
7. *March 3, Columbia Missourian* – (Missouri) **Suspected illegally stored radioactive gas leads to U.S. Attorney's investigation.** A federal investigation into an incident of radioactive gas in Columbia has been confirmed by the Natural Resources Department. A state environmental official said the week of February 22 that the Natural Resources Department found germanium, a radioactive gas, being illegally stored in the Columbia area within the last month. The official asked to remain unnamed. An official with Missouri's Natural Resources Department confirmed February 26 that there was an active investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office involving illegally stored radioactive gas but declined further comment. Source: <http://www.columbiamissourian.com/stories/2010/03/03/radioactive-gas-causes-us-attorneys-investigation/>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

8. *March 5, PC Magazine* – (International) **Taiwan quake shuts down some LCD suppliers.** A significant earthquake that struck the island of Taiwan on the morning of March 3 has shut down several component suppliers to the LCD industry, although the damage appears to be limited. According to analysts, panel makers Chi Mei Optoelectronics and HannStar Display Corp. shut down after the quake, which measured 6.4 on the Richter scale. Avanstrate, a small glass supplier, also suffered damage at one of the company's tanks. All supply components to both notebook PC manufacturers, LCD monitor makers, and manufacturers of LCD TVs. More generally, Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co., the world's largest foundry, said that it had lost the equivalent of 1.5 days of production, while rival UMC said it had lost between 1 and 1.5 days of production. Until the companies provide a more comprehensive

damage assessment, it is unclear whether the effects will be a short-term blip or a more prolonged vacuum in the supply chain. An analyst for DisplaySearch wrote in a blog post, "...there are some indications that there will be another panel price increase in March due to the earthquake's impact on the supply chain."

Source: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2360966,00.asp>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *March 5, The Register* – (International) **Argos buries unencrypted credit card data in email receipts.** Catalogue firm Argos has been criticized for an email security breach that exposed customers' credit card details and CCV security numbers. The exposure came to light after an Argos customer who checked his order confirmation email found that his credit card number and security code was buried in the HTML source of the message. The slip-up meant that any miscreants who intercepted email confirmation messages from Argos would be able to harvest plastic card payment details - if they spotted where the numbers were stashed. The breach was discovered by a UK Argos customer and first reported by PC Pro. The customer's card details were recently fraudulently misused, but this incident has not been linked to the Argos email slip-up. It's unclear how long the exposure problem lasted, or how many Argos customers were affected. In a statement, Argos said it had already corrected the fault and was working with privacy watchdogs at the Information Commissioner's Office in dealing with the fallout from the breach.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/05/argos\\_email\\_security\\_snafu/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/05/argos_email_security_snafu/)

10. *March 5, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* – (Indiana; Michigan) **Police tie suspect to 12 bank heists.** Police in Valparaiso, Indiana have arrested a man suspected of robbing a dozen banks, including one in Warsaw recently. When authorities questioned a 35-year-old suspect, they said he admitted to the Warsaw robbery and 11 others in northern Indiana and southwest Michigan. These included banks in Plymouth, Hebron, Rensselaer and Chesterton, police said. The FBI believes the suspect could be responsible for two robberies in Valparaiso and one in Paw Paw, Michigan. The suspect was being held at the Porter County Jail pending federal bank robbery charges.

Source:  
<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100305/LOCAL07/303059957/1043/LOCAL07>

11. *March 5, NBC 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **FBI: 'Suburban Bank Robber' robs 4th bank.** A serial bank-robbery suspect local authorities call the "Suburban Bank Robber"

robbed a fourth bank on March 4, according to the FBI. At about 3:52 p.m. on March 4, the suspect entered the Whitehall Credit Union at 5025 E. Main St. in Columbus, walked up to a teller and told the employee he was robbing the bank. The suspect wanted the teller to put money into a plastic bag that he placed on the counter. Although no weapon was observed, the teller complied and placed money into the bag. The suspect got into a blue-colored vehicle, possibly a small Chevrolet or Kia, and fled westbound on East Main Street. Law enforcement believes the credit union was the fourth bank the suspect has robbed since January 29, 2010 when he hit a Key Bank in Reynoldsburg. Since that time, he has robbed banks in Worthington and Upper Arlington, police said.

Source:

[http://www2.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/crime/article/suburban\\_bank\\_robber\\_hits\\_fourth\\_bank/32935/](http://www2.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/crime/article/suburban_bank_robber_hits_fourth_bank/32935/)

12. *March 4, SC Magazine* – (International) **Merchants seemingly on a mission to fail compliance tests as a quarter admit that they do not know if they will meet the September deadline.** A third of merchants do not understand the requirements of PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) compliance and only 11 percent are certified as compliant. A survey conducted by Redshift Research on behalf of Tripwire found that a third of respondents do not know if they will be PCI compliant by the September 2010 deadline, while 18 percent said that they did not know if they would be compliant by the 2010 deadlines that have been set by Visa and MasterCard. Despite the majority of respondents saying they were confident about achieving PCI compliance, the research survey found that 32 percent are currently responding to weaknesses that were identified in their PCI DSS pre-audit; 27 percent of companies will put off becoming PCI compliant for as long as possible; 14 percent have completed a PCI DSS pre-audit but not undertaken any further action; and 14 percent are not compliant and are not in the process of becoming so. In addition, 39 percent of respondents believe that credit card security should be the problem of the credit card companies.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/merchants-seemingly-on-a-mission-to-fail-compliance-tests-as-a-quarter-admit-that-they-do-not-know-if-they-will-meet-the-september-deadline/article/165051/>

13. *March 4, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Clash over ‘Too Big to Fail’.** There is no U.S. government guarantee to protect the largest financial firms, a Treasury Department official said, as a congressional watchdog criticized the \$45 billion in government aid provided to Citigroup Inc. The individual who oversees the Treasury’s \$700 billion financial-rescue plan, disagreed with members of a congressional oversight panel that some financial firms benefit from the assumption that the government would step in to prevent their failure. The head of the Congressional Oversight Panel said that financial markets assume there is a government guarantee of large banks, but a Treasury official disagreed. The CEO of Citigroup said his bank is ‘well-capitalized.’ The chair of the five-member Congressional Oversight Panel said it was clear that financial markets do assume the guarantee exists, pointing to a recent ratings-company report that specifically noted the government’s role in backing



Citigroup. Panel members locked horns with the individual who oversees the Treasury's \$700 billion financial-rescue plan over his reluctance to answer some questions, primarily regarding the health of Citigroup when the government injected capital into the bank in late 2008.

Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704187204575101511215418730.htm?mod=WSJ\\_latestheadlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704187204575101511215418730.htm?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines)

14. *March 4, DarkReading* – (International) **New BlackEnergy trojan targeting Russian, Ukrainian banks.** Russian hackers have written a more sophisticated version of the infamous BlackEnergy Trojan associated with the 2008 cyberattacks against Georgia that now targets Russian and Ukrainian online banking customers. A security researcher with SecureWorks says Russian hackers are using the Trojan spread via the BlackEnergy botnet to hit Russian and Ukrainian banks with a two-pronged attack that steals their customers' online banking credentials and then wages a distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack on the banks as a cover: "They may be emptying the bank accounts while the banks are busy cleaning up from the DDoS," he says. Dubbed by the researcher as "BlackEnergy 2," this new version of the Trojan is a full rewrite of the code that features a modular architecture that supports plug-ins that can be written without access to its source code. It currently comes with three different DDoS plug-ins, as well as one for spamming and two for online banking fraud, according to the researcher.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/security/vulnerabilities/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=223101487&subSection=Vulnerabilities+and+threats>

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## **Transportation Sector**

15. *March 5, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **6 killed in I-10 accident after collision causes bus to roll over.** Six people were killed after a passenger bus on Interstate 10 was clipped by another vehicle and rolled over about 15 miles south of Ahwatukee, authorities said. Fifteen others, including two 11-year-old children, were injured, a Department of Public Safety spokesman said. He said the dead were two men and four women. The collision happened at about 5:30 a.m. near mile marker 173. Interstate 10 is closed westbound heading to Phoenix. DPS had no estimate of when they will be able to reopen the freeway. The bus was carrying a total of 21 passengers. 10 of the injured were taken by ground ambulance to various hospitals and five of the mostly seriously injured were flown by medical helicopter. The commercial bus is owned by a company called Tierra Santa Inc. out of Los Angeles.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/pinal/articles/2010/03/05/20100305arizona-I-10-accident.html>

16. *March 5, Dekalb Daily Chronicle* – (Illinois) **Authorities investigate railroad's wire theft.** Authorities are looking for the person or people who stole more than 15,000 feet of insulated solid copper wire from telephone poles near railroad tracks in Genoa, Illinois. The DeKalb County Sheriff's Office was contacted Feb. 26 by the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad regarding the missing wire. The wire was pulled off telephone poles that run parallel to the railroad tracks between Route 23 and Roosevelt Road north of Route 72, according to a Crime Stoppers news release from the sheriff's office. That wire carries information from the railroad's dispatch center to the railroad signals. The railroad sent an employee out to look at the tracks after receiving a notice that the signals were malfunctioning, a DM&E Railroad spokesman said. The wire was taken from about a mile of track, he said. The wiring was part of a redundancy the railroad has in its communication system, he said, and the railroad can operate without it. But the company's safety margin increases when the wiring is in place and functioning properly.  
Source: <http://www.daily-chronicle.com/articles/2010/03/04/12356108/index.xml>
17. *March 5, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Screening of all U.S.-bound air cargo still years away.** It could take the Homeland Security Department another two years to ensure that all cargo is screened for weapons of mass destruction before being flown into the United States on passenger airplanes, much longer than originally estimated, a senior department official told lawmakers. A 2007 law that Democrats wrote as soon as they took over Congress required the Transportation Security Administration to ensure that all cargo aboard passenger flights is screened for weapons of mass destruction by August 2010. The deadline applies to flights originating inside the United States and those from other countries. But the deadline for incoming international flights will be missed, TSA's acting director told the House Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee. She said the agency might be able to ensure that only 65 percent of cargo on international flights is screened. But TSA will meet the deadline for screening all cargo aboard passenger flights originating inside the United States, she added.  
Source: [http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw\\_20100305\\_5317.php](http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100305_5317.php)
18. *March 5, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Pentagon Metro station reopens after shooting.** The Pentagon Metro station has reopened, a day after a gunman was killed in a shootout with police officers. The north entrance to the station reopened shortly after noon Friday. The station had been closed while the FBI investigated Thursday's shooting. Metro says the southern entrance remains closed. Bus service has also started again from the lower level of the Pentagon Transit Center, while the FBI continues to work along the upper level.  
Source: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/local/ap/pentagon-metro-station-reopens-after-shooting-86646817.html>
19. *March 4, BBC* – (International) **Boeing 747 survives simulated 'Flight 253' bomb blast.** A test explosion on a Boeing 747 has shown that a US Christmas Day flight would have landed safely even if a bomb on board was detonated successfully. The plane's fuselage did not break in the controlled blast, which used the same explosives



that were on Flight 253 from Amsterdam to Detroit. However experts said it showed the suspected bomber and the passenger next to him would have been killed. The controlled experiment was carried out for the BBC Two documentary, How safe are our Skies? Detroit Flight 253. An international terrorism and explosives adviser to the UN replicated the conditions on board the Detroit flight on a decommissioned Boeing 747 at an aircraft graveyard in Gloucestershire, England. The same amount of the explosive pentaerythritol (or PETN) allegedly carried by the terrorist was placed to mirror the location where he was sitting on the plane. Researchers concluded that the quantity of explosive used was nowhere near enough needed to rupture the skin of a passenger plane.

Source: [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in\\_depth/8547329.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/8547329.stm)

20. *March 4, WTVD 11 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Power outage affects RDU.** Progress Energy and airport officials say a power problem knocked out electricity at Raleigh Durham International Airport March 4. The facility has backup generators, but the blackout slowed passengers trying to check in. A spokesperson for RDU said Progress Energy was working on a substation when the power went out. The power outage affected all passenger check-in at Terminal 1 and Terminal 2. There were some delays with arriving planes as the jet bridges operate on electricity. The air traffic control tower was running on generator power thus planes could still land and take off.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=7311825>

21. *March 4, Associated Press* – (California) **Protesting students shut down Oakland freeway.** A major San Francisco Bay area freeway has been shut down in both directions by college students protesting budget cuts at California campuses. About 150 people who were part of a much larger group demonstrating in downtown Oakland clambered onto the I-880 freeway at the beginning of the evening rush hour March 4. Aerial footage shot by television station KTVU showed people with banners spread out across the road, forming a barrier to lines of cars that stood stopped some distance away. KTVU says Oakland police are calling for more officers. The freeway closure came at the end of a day of protests and rallies at college campuses nationwide to draw attention to rising tuition and class cuts.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gwLTFNUNmabuMfGSnfBufdrH-IQD9E85UG82>

22. *March 4, WNYW 5 New York* – (New York) **Air traffic controller suspended.** The Federal Aviation Administration has suspended two air traffic controllers who worked at John F. Kennedy Airport after two children radioed instructions from the control tower to pilots in planes waiting to take off. The FAA says that the Stony Brook man brought his son and daughter into the tower. The FAA says that he brought his son to work on February 16 and let him read a few routine messages to pilots. He then brought his daughter to the tower the next day and allowed her to do the same, according to the FAA. The incidents came to light when audio recordings of the transmissions surfaced on the Internet. In the recordings, some of the pilots seem to enthusiastically respond to the children's instructions. Only FAA-licensed controllers are supposed to

communicate with airplanes.

Source: [http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/air-traffic-controller-suspended-20100304](http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/local_news/air-traffic-controller-suspended-20100304)

23. *March 4, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Atlantic City International Airport reopens after shutdown.** An emergency landing shut down Atlantic City International Airport for two hours Thursday. The landing involved a New Jersey Air National Guardsman from the 177th Fighter Wing - who was forced to land an F-16 jet at the intersection of two runways, due to an electrical problem. The incident was reported after 11 a.m. and the Federal Aviation Administration confirmed the incident. Officials diverted or delayed a handful of Spirit Airlines flights due to the incident. Flight 235 was diverted to LaGuardia Airport in New York, and Flight 936 to Philadelphia International Airport.

Source: [http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic/article\\_99d7ca00-27b6-11df-8ec5-001cc4c03286.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/atlantic/article_99d7ca00-27b6-11df-8ec5-001cc4c03286.html)

For another story, see item [4](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

24. *March 5, Joplin Independent* – (Missouri) **Bartlett Grain pays small fine for FIFRA violation.** A Missouri agricultural merchant has agreed to pay a \$14,560 civil penalty to the United States to settle allegations that it repackaged and sold four different pesticides without proper authorization at its facility in Waverly in 2008. According to a consent agreement filed the week of March 1 in Kansas City, Kansas, Bartlett Grain Company, LLC, headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, was found to be in violation of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as a result of an inspection of its Waverly facility by the Missouri Department of Agriculture in November 2008. The inspection and subsequent review of records revealed that the business distributed or sold repackaged forms of the pesticides Medal II; Atra-5; Lo-Vol 4 2,4-D; and Parallel; all without having prior written authorization from the legal registrants of those products, as required by FIFRA. As a result of the enforcement action, Bartlett Grain has since obtained the necessary written authorizations for all pesticide products that it repackages at the Waverly facility.

Source: [http://www.joplinindependent.com/display\\_article.php/cwhitley1267645544](http://www.joplinindependent.com/display_article.php/cwhitley1267645544)

25. *March 5, Columbus Republic* – (Indiana) **Fire damages Northern Indiana pork processing plant.** Authorities say a fire at a Tyson Foods pork processing plant in

Logansport, Indiana forced about 1,000 workers outside. No injuries were reported from the Friday morning fire, which police said was burning on the roof of the plant. The mayor says the fire was extinguished within about an hour and that a Tyson engineer would be inspecting the building. A Tyson spokeswoman said the company was not immediately sure what caused the fire or the extent of the damage.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=111&ArticleID=143490>

26. *March 5, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Idaho invasive species report released.** A report from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture shows the state worked to fight a variety of invasive species last year, including quagga and zebra mussels, potato cyst nematode and other pests. The department partnered with the Idaho Department of Lands to spend more than \$120,000 trapping gypsy moths, which it describes as a destructive defoliator of forest and shade trees. The Agriculture Department also distributed about 428,000 pounds of bait to private landowners looking to fight Mormon cricket infestations. The Times-News reports that a department entomologist says the report shows the department can accomplish quite a bit even in tight budget years.

Source: <http://www.fox12idaho.com/Global/story.asp?S=12090493>

27. *March 5, KCTV 5 Kansas City* – (National) **Pair arrested in stolen farm equipment ring.** Two men were arrested for what police said was their involvement in a multi-state stolen farm equipment ring. The two men were arrested after an investigation by the Thomas County, Kansas, and the Hayes County, Nebraska, sheriff's departments, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and the FBI in Kansas and Nebraska. The men were indicted on March 3, and charged with 12 counts for the transport and transfer of interstate commerce of goods, wares, and merchandise, which had a value of \$5,000 or more, knowing some to have been stolen, converted, and taken by fraud. According to the indictments, the thefts took place between November 2005 and April 2008 and involved the thefts of large farm equipment from Wyoming, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado. If convicted, both men face a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison on each count.

Source: <http://www.kctv5.com/news/22751895/detail.html>

28. *March 5, Food Safety News* – (Idaho; National) **Feed company violated BSE controls.** A provider of animal feed to nine states is violating federal regulations that prohibit animal proteins in ruminant feed to control the spread of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The prohibitions were put in place to prevent BSE, or Mad Cow Disease. The animal feed manufacturer involved is Rangen Inc., which provides animal feed for dairy and beef cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, pets, and horses from Buhl, Idaho. The privately held, family-owned business distributes feed products to Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, Washington, California, and Oregon. "Our investigation determined that adulteration resulted from the failure of your firm to provide for measures to avoid commingling or cross-contamination," FDA's Seattle

District director said in a February 11 “Warning Letter” to the Idaho feed manufacturer that was made public March 2. “The adulterated feed was subsequently misbranded because it was not properly labeled,” the director continued. The FDA letter said Rangen failed to use cleanout procedures to prevent carry-over of products “that contain or may contain proteins derived from mammalian tissues into animal feed that may be used as ruminants.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2010/03/rules-to-control-bse-violated-by-feed-company/>

29. *March 4, Occupational Health and Safety* – (Connecticut) **Wholesale food distributor cited for ‘cross section’ of warehouse woes.** OSHA has cited Bozzuto’s Inc. for 25 alleged violations of safety standards at its Cheshire, Connecticut, food distribution warehouse. The company, a wholesale distributor of food and household products to retailers in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, faces a total of \$58,750 in proposed fines. “These citations address a cross section of mechanical, electrical and exit access hazards that exposed workers to the dangers of electric shock, lacerations, amputation, and being caught in operating machinery or unable to swiftly exit the workplace in the event of a fire or other emergency,” said OSHA’s acting area director in Bridgeport, Connecticut. “It is imperative that the company take effective action to ensure that all such conditions are corrected and do not reoccur.” OSHA’s inspection found workers unable to open emergency exit doors from inside the workplace; a lack of specific procedures to lock out the power sources for compactors and other machines to prevent their unintended startup during service or maintenance; an unguarded grinder, table saw, compactor, and other machinery; missing guardrails; no workplace hazard assessment to determine what types of personal protective equipment workers would need; a deficient respiratory protection program; unlabeled lifting slings; improperly stored oxygen cylinders; and several electrical hazards.

Source: <http://ohsonline.com/articles/2010/03/04/wholesaler-cited-for-59000.aspx?admgarea=news>

30. *March 4, United Press International* – (Nevada; National) **FDA finds bacterial contamination source.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says it has identified the source of recent food contamination by salmonella bacteria. Officials said the Salmonella Tennessee bacterium was found in a Las Vegas company’s equipment that manufactures hydrolyzed vegetable protein, a common ingredient used as a flavor enhancer in many processed foods, including soups, sauces, stews, hot dogs, gravies, seasoned snack foods, dips, and dressings. The manufacturer of the affected product is Basic Food Flavors Inc. and the FDA said only hydrolyzed vegetable protein manufactured by that company is involved in the contamination. The company said it is recalling all hydrolyzed vegetable protein in powder and paste produced since September 17. The FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and other federal agencies and state health departments say they are monitoring and assessing the potential risks of illness from the affected products. The FDA says consumers can find additional information and a list of all recalled products at [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov).

Source: [http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/2010/03/04/FDA-finds-bacterial-contamination-source/UPI-41451267738225/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2010/03/04/FDA-finds-bacterial-contamination-source/UPI-41451267738225/)

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## **Water Sector**

31. *March 4, KRCG 13 Columbia* – (Missouri) **Vienna battles toxins in drinking water.** The Maries County of Vienna has been fighting high levels of a toxin in its drinking water for years. Vienna's drinking water is contaminated with a toxin known as PCE chemical used in dry-cleaning and metal degreasing. "It's not bad. It doesn't affect taste," a Vienna Public Works spokesperson said. Still, the contamination levels are too much for the EPA's taste. Officials said the contamination came from an old hat factory about two football fields away from the city's main well, which is 400 feet deep. The factory closed 15 years-ago, but its history goes back to world war two, and officials said over the years the factory's chemicals have found their way into the ground water. Signs have been posted around town about the contamination. However, none were posted by the school's drinking fountains, which have some parents worried. More than 500 kids are in the Maries R-1 District. The superintendent said most drink from the water fountains, though some choose to bring bottled water from home. This summer the city received \$2 million in stimulus money to build a new water treatment plant. If the city makes it on the EPA's superfund list they will be eligible for more federal dollars to help rid the water of the chemical.

Source: <http://www.connectmidmissouri.com/news/story.aspx?id=425417>

32. *March 3, WFAA 8 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Water main break floods eight homes in Fort Worth.** Monday started out in an unexpectedly soggy way for some residents after a water main break flooded half a dozen homes near Odessa and Walton avenues in far southwest Fort Worth. The problem was a 54-year-old underground pipe that burst just after 4 a.m. — a growing problem as the city's infrastructure ages. The street Harmony Science Academy lost all water pressure, but students still came to class. City officials promise to clean up and to pay for any property damages.

Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Water-main-break-floods-eight-homes-in-Fort-Worth-86295487.html>

33. *March 3, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (National) **EPA may consider limits on discharges from small commercial vessels.** A new draft report to Congress by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concludes that discharges of contaminated water from fishing boats and other small commercial vessels contribute to pollution of water bodies such as the Mississippi River and Chesapeake Bay. The report could lead to an EPA recommendation of new regulations on discharges. "Targeted reduction of certain discharges or pollutants in discharges from these vessels ... may result in important significant environmental benefits to those waters," the report said. The EPA study was ordered as part of a 2008 federal law that declared a two-year moratorium on issuing regulations of discharges, other than ballast water, from fishing vessels and other nonrecreational vessels less than 79 feet long. The

moratorium was prompted by a 2005 ruling by a federal court in California that threw out EPA regulations that exempted all vessels from applying for discharge permits under the federal Clean Water Act. The EPA issued new rules regulating such discharges from larger ships in 2008. There are close to 140,000 small vessels subject to the permitting moratorium, of which half are fishing vessels, the study said. The others include water taxis, tour boats and dive boats; tug and tow boats; research vessels; offshore supply boats; and freight barges.

Source:

[http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2010/03/epa\\_may\\_consider\\_limits\\_on\\_dis.html](http://www.nola.com/politics/index.ssf/2010/03/epa_may_consider_limits_on_dis.html)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

34. *March 5, Las Vegas Sun* – (Nevada) **Another UMC breach surfaces with theft of computer hard drives.** The theft of six computer hard drives is the latest revelation of apparent wrongdoing within University Medical Center in Las Vegas, although hospital officials say no sensitive information was compromised. The hard drives were stolen between June 2008 and last November, according to a February 26 memo that the hospital CEO sent to Clark County commissioners, who serve as the public facility's board. Five of the drives were used mostly for network access and contained no sensitive information, the memo said. One drive contained images that lacked patient information and could only be viewed using proprietary software, it said. Hospital officials also told the FBI about the hard drive thefts after the Sun reported in November that someone at UMC was leaking private patient information, allegedly to ambulance-chasing attorneys. The FBI is investigating that leak, but declined to include the hard drives, hospital officials said.

Source: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2010/mar/05/another-umc-breach-surfaces/>

35. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Experts find flaws in planning for Md. Army biolab.** The Army failed to fully analyze the risk of public exposure to deadly pathogens from a biodefense laboratory under construction at Fort Detrick, a National Academy of Sciences panel said. But rather than recommending a halt to the \$680 million project, as some critics would like, the experts urged the Army to improve its risk assessment for such projects in the future. Workers broke ground in August for the new U.S. Army Medical Institute of Infectious Diseases, about 2 1/2 years after federal regulators approved an environmental impact statement that was the focus of the committee's review. The labs are scheduled to open in May 2014, replacing crowded facilities built in the 1960s. Despite the shortcomings in risk analysis, the panel found that safety procedures and regulations at the existing labs meet or exceed accepted standards, which the panel says provides a high degree of confidence that workers and the public are protected.

Source: <http://wjz.com/local/panel.lab.regs.2.1537179.html>

36. *March 4, Palo Alto Online* – (California) **'Hazmat' concern shuts down VA hospital briefly.** A mysterious substance brought to the Palo Alto Veterans Administration



Hospital March 2 caused Palo Alto fire officials to close portions of the hospital while fire crews checked out the “possible hazardous material.” But it turned out that the material was not hazardous, according to Palo Alto’s communications officer.

Source: [http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show\\_story.php?id=15964](http://www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show_story.php?id=15964)

37. *March 4, Nextgov* – (National) **Glitch prompts VA to shut e-health data exchange with Defense.** The Veterans Affairs Department closed off access to the Defense Department’s huge electronic health record system on March 1 because it found errors in some patients’ medical data clinicians downloaded from the Defense network, according to a departmental patient safety alert, which Nextgov obtained. VA first discovered the problem in late February, when one of its doctors accessed the Defense health records system, called AHLTA, to review the prescription information of a female patient. The data showed a Defense physician had prescribed her an erectile dysfunction drug. The VA doctor suspected the system displayed erroneous information and a check with the Defense medical facility that supposedly prescribed the drug informed VA that the data was wrong and the VA query had returned information for another patient. The glitch did not cause harm to any patient, but “the potential exists for decisions regarding patient care to be made using incorrect or incomplete data,” said the director of the Veterans Health Administration’s Information Technology Patient Safety Office, in the alert issued on March 3. When doctors queried the Defense system for patient information, they received no data, a portion of the data, incorrect information, or the complete, correct data for the patient, according to the alert.

Source: [http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng\\_20100304\\_9977.php?oref=topstory](http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100304_9977.php?oref=topstory)

38. *March 3, WCPO 9 Cincinnati* – (National) **Hospital employees get bomb training.** Law enforcement officers aren’t the only ones who can learn how to respond to a terror attack. Two members of the West Chester, Ohio, Medical Center staff recently attended extensive training on how to handle terrorist bombings. The Department of Homeland Security considers hospitals a likely target for terrorism. The training, which took place in the state of New Mexico, focused on how to identify explosive devices, how to respond to a bombing at the hospital and how to plan for a rush of patients if there’s an explosion somewhere else in the community.

Source: <http://www.wcpo.com/news/local/story/Hospital-Employees-Get-Bomb-Training/w1BdBBO160qPuHLBnM-2wg.csp>

For another story, see item [65](#)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

39. *March 5, Diamondback Online* – (Maryland) **Administration pledges to punish students who incited night of mayhem.** Administrators Thursday repeated vows to seek suspension or expulsion for students arrested for rioting, as university and county police departments launched investigations into Wednesday night’s demonstration on

Route 1. Police officials from the university and Prince George's County said they have begun monitoring surveillance footage of Route 1 and the campus as they seek to identify instigators among the 1,500 students who swarmed downtown after the Terrapin men's basketball team's 79-72 victory over Duke. Wednesday night, police arrested 28 people involved in the riots — 23 of them students — and in a press conference Thursday, the Prince George's County police chief vowed that more arrests are forthcoming. "Last night, we had a destructive mob that descended into the city of College Park," the police chief said. "We will continue to investigate this incident, and I expect that more arrests will follow." According to the university's Student Conduct Code, even if arrested students are not convicted on criminal charges, they will still be automatically recommended for suspension or expulsion.

Source: <http://www.diamondbackonline.com/news/administration-pledges-to-punish-students-who-incited-night-of-mayhem-1.1223362>

40. *March 5, Washington Post* – (Virginia) **Suspected gunman in Pentagon shooting acted alone, officials say.** The California man who calmly opened fire on two police officers at an entrance to the Pentagon Thursday appears to have acted alone and was not connected to any terrorist plot, the Pentagon police chief said. The shooter, identified as a 36-year-old, was dressed in a business suit and carried two semiautomatic weapons and "many magazines" of ammunition, the police chief said. "He walked very directly to the officers and engaged," the police chief said. Two officers were superficially wounded, one in the shoulder and one in the thigh. Both were treated at George Washington University Hospital in Northwest Washington and released. They and a third officer returned fire at the suspect, critically wounding him in the head, said the chief of the Pentagon Force Protection Agency. The suspect died at George Washington University Hospital. Federal law enforcement sources identified the guns allegedly used by the suspect as a Sturm 9mm and a Taurus 9mm. Investigators are tracing the origins of the weapons and checking to see whether the suspect had permits for them.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/05/AR2010030500957.html?hpid=topnews>

41. *March 5, Associated Press* – (National) **Rowdy protesters target funding cuts at US campuses.** Students carried out raucous rallies on college campuses nationwide Thursday in protests against deep education cuts that turned violent as demonstrators threw punches and ice chunks in Wisconsin and blocked university gates and smashed car windows in California. At least 15 protesters were detained by University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee police after as many as 150 students gathered at the student union then moved to an administrative building to deliver petitions to the school chancellor. A University spokesman said campus police allowed one person inside. But when she emerged, she encouraged everyone to rush the building, he said. The violence began when police tried to turn them away. No serious injuries were reported. The school was among dozens of nationwide campuses hit with marches, strikes, teach-ins and walkouts in what was being billed as the March 4th National Day of Action for Public Education. In Northern California, rowdy protesters blocked major gates at two universities and smashed the windows of a car. Protesters at the University of

California, Santa Cruz surrounded the car while its uninjured driver was inside. Earlier, demonstrators blocked campus gates. The University provost said there were reports of protesters carrying clubs and knives, but a Santa Cruz police captain could not confirm those reports. No arrests had been made. At the University of Texas at Austin, about 100 students and staff rallied on campus to protest a 5.4 percent hike in tuition and fees approved by regents a day earlier. Protesters complained the quality of education was taking a backseat to the university's bottom line.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100304/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_university\\_cuts\\_protests](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100304/ap_on_re_us/us_university_cuts_protests)

42. *March 4, University of Wisconsin-Madison News* – (Wisconsin) **Campus urged to beware of new phishing scams.** The Office of Campus Information Security (OCIS) is aware of two new phishing emails targeting UW's NetID login service. If users click the link in the phishing email, they are directed to fake NetID login sites that are very realistic and well replicated. Users could easily be fooled by these phishing attempts. You should not click a link in an email such as this, but rather type in the URL yourself. In addition, always look for "https" in the URL. If all you see is "http," the login site is a fake. OCIS has asked the sites hosting the phishing attempts to remove the fake pages and has blocked the IP addresses referenced in the phishing emails.

Source: <http://www.news.wisc.edu/17764>

43. *March 4, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Student arrested after threatening note found at South Kitsap school.** A 14 year-old male student at a Kitsap County junior high school was arrested March 4 after a threatening note was found on campus earlier that week. The student was booked into juvenile detention for failure to appear on charges of possession of a stolen firearm, burglary and malicious mischief. The student has not yet been charged in connection with the threatening note. The note was found by a custodian Tuesday evening in a boy's restroom at John Sedgwick Junior High School. The note, written on toilet paper, listed the first name and first initial of the last name of eight students at Sedgwick, with a March 4 date for a specific "threat action." A Kitsap County Sheriff's Office news release did not specify the nature of the threat. The investigation is ongoing.

Source:

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/theblotter/2011260327\\_student\\_arrested\\_after\\_threat.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/theblotter/2011260327_student_arrested_after_threat.html)

44. *March 4, Bismarck Tribune* – (North Dakota) **Two Mandan schools locked down because of bomb threats.** Mandan High School and Mandan Middle School were locked down Thursday because of bomb threats called into both schools, the Mandan superintendent said. Law enforcement was called to both schools, and students were kept in classrooms. Nothing was found at either school, he said. Classes resumed shortly before 2:30 p.m. The high school posed more of a concern because of the multiple entrances, the superintendent said, while the middle school only has one entrance from which people can enter. The school district did not release any other details. The Mandan Police Department is investigating the incident. The threat was called in about 12:57 p.m. and the caller indicated bombs would go off in the afternoon,

but did not specify a time, according to a release from the Mandan Police Department. Source: [http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/local/article\\_72c80b2a-27cd-11df-a324-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/local/article_72c80b2a-27cd-11df-a324-001cc4c002e0.html)

45. *March 4, Gatehouse News Service* – (Massachusetts) **Police issue order for heightened security measures at Taunton City Hall.** The city’s ongoing and contentious dispute with the Star Theater owner has resulted in police issuing an order for heightened security measures at City Hall. Labeled “Special Order 2010-01” and issued Wednesday, it states that a police officer each weekday will conduct a walk-through of City Hall at least once in the morning and once in the afternoon. It also stipulates that an officer specifically stop by the law office on the second floor “to make them aware of his/her presence.” The letter, composed by a police captain at the request of the acting chief further ensures that a police officer will be assigned to City Hall Tuesday nights for City Council meetings. On those nights an officer is to be in the building from 6 p.m. until the meeting concludes and also until City Hall “is clear” of all attendees. A police cruiser also “whenever possible” should be in the parking area behind City Hall as people make their way to their vehicles. Source: <http://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/x1759785945/Police-issue-order-for-heightened-security-measures-at-Taunton-City-Hall>
46. *March 4, KDRV 12 Medford* – (Oregon) **Police say Crater HS ‘prank’ was no joke.** The teenager who says he set-off a chemical bomb as a prank at Crater High School is now facing federal charges. He appeared before a judge in juvenile court Thursday. The Jackson County District Attorney’s Office says the 16-year-old police believe set off a homemade bomb at the high school plead not guilty. He is charged with possession and manufacturing of a destructive device, both federal offenses. He is facing “C” felony charges. If found guilty, he could be fined or placed on probation, even up to his 25th birthday. The judge ordered the teen to stay in custody at the JDH building in Medford. The bomb went off in a boy’s bathroom at Crater High. The school was on lockdown while the Oregon State Bomb Squad investigated. Source: <http://kdrv.com/page/164955>
47. *March 3, Air Force Times* – (National) **DoD to reduce use of Social Security numbers.** The Defense Department is preparing to launch a militarywide effort to reduce the use of Social Security numbers to lower the chances of identity theft for military and civilian workers and contractors. But the announcement, included in the March 3 Federal Register, makes clear that stopping the use of Social Security numbers altogether is not feasible. The SSN is a prize to identity thieves, but it also has become ingrained in various military uses that can’t be fully eliminated, defense officials said. They are proposing new regulations calling for a complete review of military records and reports to determine when the number isn’t necessary. In phases, starting in 1969 and ending in 1974, Social Security numbers replaced service numbers as the primary identifier and authenticator of military personnel. Expanded use of SSNs has increased efficiency and allowed Defense Department information systems and processes to work together and transfer data “with a greatly reduced chance of errors,” officials said in the notice of proposed regulations. But the threat of identity theft, they said, “has rendered

this widespread use unacceptable,” resulting in the requirement that all federal agencies evaluate how SSNs are used and eliminate their unnecessary use.

Source:

[http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2010/03/military\\_socialsecuritynumbers\\_030310w/](http://www.airforcetimes.com/news/2010/03/military_socialsecuritynumbers_030310w/)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

48. *March 5, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Emergency communications center facing challenges.** The Emergency Communications Preparedness Center (ECPC), still faces major challenges on a number of fronts in fully executing its mission, according to a report from the Government Accounting Office (GAO) prepared last month and released this week. The report, titled Emergency Communications: Establishment of the Emergency Communications Preparedness Center and Related Interagency Coordination Challenges, found that ECPC faces interagency coordination challenges in obtaining agreement among ECPC members on group decisions, gaining the acceptance of its stakeholders when promoting a strategy to achieve interoperable communications, providing and demonstrating value to its members, maturing as an interagency body, and working to define its relationships with other organizations with similar goals and objectives. GAO reviewed ECPC’s Charter, documentation from agencies detailing their agreement with the charter, and rosters of ECPC’s Executive and Steering Committees, as well as the Executive Committee Action Items list and OEC’s progress report on goals and objectives contained in the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP). The report’s researchers also interviewed officials from 11 of the 12 member ECPC agencies.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/12399/149/>

49. *March 4, KABC 7 Los Angeles* – (California) **O.C. finds glitch in Tsunami warning system.** Orange County officials have discovered some glitches in the county’s tsunami early warning system. The warning system is called “Alert O-C.” Officials discovered the problems the weekend of February 26 when they tried to warn residents about a possible tsunami following the Chile quake. The reverse 9-1-1 system was only able to reach about one-third of the homes and businesses it was supposed to notify. Officials say the system was overloaded. Most of the calls went through on a second try. However, 60,000 people never got the instructions.

Source:

[http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/orange\\_county&id=7312777](http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/orange_county&id=7312777)

50. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Boulder smashes through rear of East Dubuque firehouse.** A large boulder on the bluff behind the East Dubuque, Illinois, firehouse dislodged late Wednesday night or early Thursday morning, rolled down more than 30 feet, and smashed through the rear wall of the concrete building. It left a 10-by-8-foot hole. An ambulance had been parked in the area the boulder broke through, but was not damaged. There was damage, though, to a hose dryer, a washing

machine and a clothes dryer.

Source: <http://www.wqad.com/news/sns-ap-il--firehouseboulder,0,1310872.story>

51. *March 4, Globe Gazette* – (Iowa) **No breach of data when State Homeland Security Web site breached.** The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division said an initial investigation shows no breach of data when its Web site was breached recently. A spokeswoman said they received word March 3 that the Web site had been compromised. Information technology personnel came in to immediately to take the Web site down and began looking at Web logs to see what had happened, the spokeswoman said. The Web site contains public information about the department's programs and activities, the spokeswoman said. The department has asked for help from the information security office of the Iowa Department of Administrative Services.

Source:

[http://www.globegazette.com/articles/2010/03/04/news/latest/doc4b9019d298a59198787058.txt#vmix\\_media\\_id=11245058](http://www.globegazette.com/articles/2010/03/04/news/latest/doc4b9019d298a59198787058.txt#vmix_media_id=11245058)

52. *March 3, Ithaca Journal* – (New York) **Tompkins emergency dispatching needs upgrade, director says.** When an emergency call comes into 911, Tompkins County dispatchers can determine where the caller is located, see warnings about past activity and potential dangers at that address, pull up tax, utility and traffic map overlays, and even access aerial photographs to find nearby landmarks for those who are lost. But the technology that has helped make this possible has caused problems as well. Once able to receive and transmit records on-the-go, track the geographic positions of other emergency vehicles and send messages between them, police and rescue personnel lost their mobile data capabilities a few years ago when the microwave-based system was unable to handle the increased data flow, according to the county director of emergency response. Now that the county has installed a new \$20 million communications tower network, it has the hardware to cope. But it needs software, officials said.

Source:

<http://www.theithacajournal.com/article/20100303/NEWS01/3030372/1124/Tompkins-emergency-dispatching-needs-upgrade--director-says>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

53. *March 4, PC World* – (International) **Microsoft plans to patch 8 Windows, Office bugs next week.** Microsoft on March 4 announced it will ship two security updates on March 9 to patch eight vulnerabilities in Windows and Office. In its monthly advance notification, Microsoft spelled out next week's two-update Patch Tuesday, a far cry from February's massive roll-out of 13 security bulletins that fixed 26 flaws. The downturn was not unexpected. "This is indicative of the on and off cycle that Microsoft uses," said the director of security operations at nCircle Network Security. "Last month was more OS related, this month they're patching some applications." Both bulletins will be pegged as "important," Microsoft's second-highest severity rating in its four-



step scoring system. The vulnerabilities in those two updates, however, allow attackers to insert malicious code onto unpatched PCs, a fact that at first glance may seem contrary to Microsoft's less-than-critical ranking. Neither of the bulletins match up with the outstanding security advisories that Microsoft has issued but not yet patched, including one harking back to November 2009. Newer advisories, such as one last month about a bug in Internet Explorer and another issued on March 1 about a flaw in VBScript, are also not on the patch list for next week, the director said. The VBScript bug, which can be exploited via Internet Explorer, prompted Microsoft to issue an unusual warning: Don't press the F1 key.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166158/Microsoft\\_plans\\_to\\_patch\\_8\\_Windows\\_Office\\_bugs\\_next\\_week](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166158/Microsoft_plans_to_patch_8_Windows_Office_bugs_next_week)

54. *March 4, Network World* – (International) **Chinese attacks like the one against Google are on pace to double this year.** Recent Internet attacks from China against Google and other U.S. companies will more than double this year if the pace during the first two months continues, a security expert says. This type of attack has been increasing over the past two years, with F-Secure spotting 1,968 such examples in 2008, 2,195 in 2009 and 895 so far this year, said the chief research officer for F-Secure, who during RSA Conference held a private briefing on the attacks. Unlike other malware attacks, these are fashioned for specific targets and are used only once. "In these cases, you are the only organizations in the world to get hit and no one else, and the attacker has done his homework," the researcher said.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/030410-rsa-chinese-attacks.html?hpg1=bn>

55. *March 4, V3.co.uk* – (International) **RSA 2010: Researchers dissect ZeuS botnet blueprint.** A little knowledge and a few thousand dollars is all it takes to build a fully functional botnet, according to security experts. Cisco researchers told delegates at the 2010 RSA conference in San Francisco that a botnet running the infamous ZeuS malware could be built for \$2,500 (£1,660). ZeuS is primarily a data-gathering and botnet control tool, but has become particularly loathed in the security community because it directly injects content into pages and intercepts credentials before they are sent to legitimate sites. Making matters worse, the monetary and technical thresholds for running Zeus are particularly low. The researchers said that a current version of Zeus can be had for roughly \$700 (£460), while older versions can be obtained for free. A criminal could then obtain an exploit tool to install the malware for roughly \$800 (£530), while a server will cost around \$300 (£200) and an additional \$700 to hire and maintain affiliates to drive traffic to the attack sites.

Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3/news/2258969/rsa-2010-researchers-dissect>

56. *March 4, The Register* – (International) **Severe' OpenSSL vuln busts public key crypto.** Computer scientists say they've discovered a "severe vulnerability" in the world's most widely used software encryption package that allows them to retrieve a machine's secret cryptographic key. The bug in the OpenSSL cryptographic library is significant because the open-source package is used to protect sensitive data in

countless applications and operating systems throughout the world. Although the attack technique is difficult to carry out, it could eventually be applied to a wide variety of devices, particularly media players and smartphones with anti-copying mechanisms. The scientists, from the University of Michigan's electrical engineering and computer science departments, said the bug is easily fixed by applying cryptographic "salt" to an underlying error-checking algorithm. The additional randomization would make the attack unfeasible. An OpenSSL official, who asked that his name not be published, said engineers are in the process of pushing out a patch and stressed the attack is difficult to carry out in real-world settings.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/04/severe\\_openssl\\_vulnerability/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/04/severe_openssl_vulnerability/)

57. *March 4, PC World* – (National) **FBI director: Hackers have corrupted valuable data.** Hackers breaking into businesses and government agencies with targeted attacks have not only stolen intellectual property, in some cases they have corrupted data too, the head of the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation said on March 4. The United States has been under assault from these targeted spear-phishing attacks for years, but they received mainstream attention in January, when Google admitted that it had been hit and threatened to pull its business out of China — the presumed source of the attack — as a result. The FBI Director called these attacks a threat to the nation's security on March 4, speaking at the RSA Conference in San Francisco. "Just one breach is all they need in order to open the floodgates," he said, speaking about the hackers behind these intrusions. "We have seen not only a loss of data, but also a corruption of that data." The director did not say exactly what he meant by corruption of data, but security experts worry that if attackers are able to alter source code, they might put back-doors or logic bombs in the software they gain access to.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166378/FBI\\_Director\\_Hackers\\_have\\_corrupted\\_valuable\\_data](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166378/FBI_Director_Hackers_have_corrupted_valuable_data)

58. *March 4, DarkReading* – (International) **Tool automates targeted attacks on social network users.** A researcher on March 4 released a free tool that impersonates a Twitter user's account in order to execute automated targeted attacks on the person's followers. A security researcher with Core Security Labs, says the group wrote the tool as a way to demonstrate and test for how social networks can be used for spear phishing. The initial version executes attacks on Twitter, but the researcher says it can be extended to work against Facebook and other social networks. The tool is based on Core's Exomind, an experimental Python-based framework written to test social network, search engines, and instant messaging attacks. The researcher says the goal is to provide organizations with a tool for social networking security training, penetration testing, or just to show how these attacks could work.

Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/insiderthreat/security/client/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=223101626>

For more stories, see items [8](#) and [14](#)

## Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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### Communications Sector

59. *March 5, Middletown Times Herald Record* – (New York) **TV-signal glitch for Time Warner caused by fire.** For the past two weeks, there's been something fishy going on with Time Warner Cable's signal in the Hudson Valley. In place of PBS' usual programming, such as "Great Performances" and "Charlie Rose," Channel 13 has aired children's cartoons. There's excess letterboxing — dark panels — surrounding the pictures on a few channels, and some shows on ABC look like they're being viewed through a fun-house mirror. The problems were caused by a fire in a Manhattan manhole, according to a Time Warner Cable spokeswoman. The fire damaged some fiber-optic cable, forcing the company to switch to over-the-air signals. The PBS station and a few others should be returned to normal soon.

Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100305/BIZ/3050357/-1/news>

60. *March 4, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Agency awards \$255M in new broadband funds.** The U.S. Rural Utilities Service (RUS) today announced \$254.6 million in funding for 22 broadband deployment projects in 18 states across the U.S. as it works to wrap up a first round of broadband funding made available in a huge economic stimulus package passed by Congress early last year. The RUS has now awarded more than \$895 million of about \$2.5 billion it has available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. On March 2, RUS and the U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced they were extending the deadline to apply for a second round of funding from March 15 to later in the month. The new broadband projects will help rural areas attract new businesses, educational opportunities and jobs, said the secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the parent agency of the RUS.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166218/Agency\\_awards\\_255M\\_in\\_new\\_broadband\\_funds](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9166218/Agency_awards_255M_in_new_broadband_funds)

61. *March 4, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Definition of 'broadband' still a secret in U.S. plan.** The National Broadband Plan is due to reach Congress in two weeks, but there is still some mystery about how the plan will define the term "broadband." The plan's chief author said in an interview on March 3 that it will set specific minimum speeds that Internet service providers will have to deliver in order to qualify for funds

from the Federal Communication Commission's Universal Service Fund. But he revealed few details because the plan is undergoing more refinements before it is sent to Congress on March 17. Asked how the plan actually defines broadband, the chief author was noncommittal and indicated the answer was somewhat controversial. However, he noted that the FCC Chairman's call for getting Internet service speeds of 100Mbit/sec. to 100 million U.S homes as one indication of what broadband goals for the nation should be.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9165898/Definition\\_of\\_broadband\\_still\\_a\\_secret\\_in\\_U.S.\\_plan](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9165898/Definition_of_broadband_still_a_secret_in_U.S._plan)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

62. *March 5, KIMT 3 Rochester* – (Iowa) **2 charged with improvised bombs.** Authorities in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, say they have charged two 22-year-old men with setting off several improvised chemical bombs at an apartment complex in southwest Cedar Rapids. The explosive devices, which police and firefighters call “MacGyvers” after the once-popular television show, went off the night of January 31, causing no injuries or serious damage. A Cedar Rapids fire department spokesman says authorities believe the two men set off the bombs at the apartment complex because a former girlfriend lived there. The two were charged Thursday with reckless use of fire or explosives, which is a serious misdemeanor. They were released on bond after an initial court appearance.

Source: [http://www.kimt.com/news/state/story/2-charged-with-improvised-bombs/TabLmXKlnUuRHR\\_8mKVebA.csp](http://www.kimt.com/news/state/story/2-charged-with-improvised-bombs/TabLmXKlnUuRHR_8mKVebA.csp)

63. *March 4, Times Beacon Record* – (New York) **PJ's East Beach closed for repairs.** East Beach, by some accounts the area's most popular shoreside spot, has been closed to the public by a vote of the Port Jefferson Village Board for reasons of public safety. Harsh winter storms, including a December nor'easter declared a disaster by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, have caused severe beach erosion at the site, according to village officials. The mayor said she wanted the beach closed until adequate fencing and signage can be installed to protect and warn the public. “It's in desperate need of repair,” she added during a board work session. The village trustee is heading up the repair project for the village and said Tuesday the section of East Beach in need of repair measures 800 feet long by 50 feet wide and has been eroded to a depth of 15 feet. The trustee estimates 30,000 cubic yards of sand is needed.

Source: [http://www.northshoreoflongisland.com/Articles-i-2010-03-04-83219.112114-sub18235.112114\\_PJs\\_East\\_Beach\\_closed\\_for\\_repairs.html](http://www.northshoreoflongisland.com/Articles-i-2010-03-04-83219.112114-sub18235.112114_PJs_East_Beach_closed_for_repairs.html)

64. *March 4, Nevada Appeal* – (Nevada) **Nevada emergency teams lead nation in disaster planning.** A member of the Nevada Division of Emergency Management says that even while hoping it never happens, his staff is planning for the worst: A nuclear attack by terrorists in Reno or Las Vegas. He emphasized there is no evidence that any

such attack is being planned or even possible at this point. But he said the state must plan for such an event to be ready if anything that serious ever does happen. “We need to be prepared to move to protect life and property,” he said during a press conference on the state’s emergency planning. Nevada’s governor joined him saying, “It’s not that we know or believe an incident is going to occur. Nevada is just leading the way in planning.” Officials agreed the Las Vegas Strip is the most likely target in Nevada — and potentially one of the top five targets in America. According to the experts, a 10 kiloton nuclear device exploded there would kill up to 150,000 at ground zero and another 50,000 within a one-mile radius. More than 40,000 would be injured. A similar attack is Reno would produce a third to half that number of casualties.

Source:

<http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20100304/NEWS/100309888/1070&ParentProfile=1058>

For another story, see item [5](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Dams Sector**

65. *March 5, Alexandria Town Talk* – (Louisiana) **Area with deficient levee near downtown hospital.** It appears as if the mystery of the unnamed parking lot in a letter about levee deficiencies from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to local officials last December has been solved, although no one will confirm it officially. The area in question with the deficient levee height is next to Rapides Regional Medical Center in downtown Alexandria. The district’s executive director said he did not know the location of a 350-foot parking lot along Bayou Rapides that was cited by FEMA as being without the required freeboard along the levee. A Marksville resident who is a former member of the levee board and was in attendance at Tuesday’s meeting, knew that could not be correct and started asking around. He said he was on the levee board when the sea walls were constructed on the church parking lot. When Rapides Avenue was being expanded, part of the levee was taken, causing the need for the sea wall construction. At that time, the construction project was approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He went to the city’s Engineering Department, and he said he got confirmation from one engineer, but the Town Talk could not confirm the parking lot and city officials deferred to the Levee District for comment. City officials have said they have had trouble getting answers about the deficiencies from both FEMA and the Corps of Engineers. FEMA officials continually have said that levee certification “is a Corps issue,” and a spokesperson with FEMA’s Region 6 public information office said the city of Alexandria is the one to contact about Bayou

Rapides and Bayou Phillips deficiencies.

Source: <http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20100305/NEWS01/3050329/1002/Area-with-deficient-levee-near-downtown-hospital>

66. *March 4, Auburn Reporter* – (Washington) **Corps to test strength of dam with spring fill.** Weather permitting, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers could begin this month on the annual spring fill of the pool behind Howard Hanson Dam, a critical step toward measuring the effectiveness of interim flood control measures instituted after the flooding of January 2009. An exact date has not been set. The January 2009 flooding opened up two holes in the face of the right abutment of the dam, a natural support structure made of 20,000-year-old landslide material. The appearance of those depressions and the simultaneous appearance of rock and dirt in the drainage tunnels underneath prompted concerns about the integrity of the abutment and finally of the dam it supports. Those concerns are responsible for the sand bags and barriers that now line the west bank of the Green River north of 8th Street Northeast in Auburn and beyond. Those flood control measures significantly lowered the risk of flooding in the Green River Valley during the rainy season. Filling the pool is essential to test the effectiveness of the seepage barrier, or grout curtain, that was completed on the abutment last November. The Corps is in the study-and-design phase of a permanent solution that could include a barrier wall that would restore the dam to its full capacity. Source: [http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/south\\_king/aub/news/86285277.html](http://www.pnwlocalnews.com/south_king/aub/news/86285277.html)

67. *March 3, WDAY 6 Fargo* – (North Dakota) **Kindred officials declare a state of emergency.** Overland flood prone Kindred, North Dakota, is the latest city to get in line to prepare for the possible rush of waters this spring. City officials declared a state of emergency at a March 3 council meeting, but for this small town, the biggest concern is not even within the city limits. It is outlying areas like the south side of town's flood barrier, Highway 46. The council approved a resolution to allow the Corps. of Engineers to aid the city this spring, and started their push for volunteers. The community's biggest challenge is not even within city limits: instead, outlying areas like the south side of town's flood barrier, Highway 46. The mayor said, "It washed out last year and that's kind of our natural flood barrier that we have that keeps a lot of it on the south side of it. But last year a culvert broke and washed a very large hole in the highway and so that's what kind of scared Davenport last year." City officials kept a detailed diary of all the events and preparations from last year to better help them this year. They city has not started sandbagging yet, they will decide that in the next week. Right now, they have 85-thousand bags that are ready to be filled and a storage area on the south side of town to keep them. Source: <http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/30603/>

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