



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 March 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that Las Vegas-based Basic Food Flavors Inc., responsible for a ballooning recall of processed foods, continued to manufacture and distribute a flavor-enhancing ingredient for a month after tests on January 21 confirmed it was made with salmonella-contaminated equipment, according to an FDA report. They said the company continued to distribute hydrolyzed vegetable protein until February 15. (See item [24](#))
- According to the Associated Press, the Minneapolis School District locked down all of its schools Wednesday after police informed officials of vague threats posted on the Web. (See item [37](#))

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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 10, KJCT 8 Grand Junction* – (Colorado) **Tanker full of propane catches fire.** A propane tank in Loma has caught on fire early on March 10. Fire crews responded to the accident at Highway 139 at mile marker 18. Early reports say the tanker truck hauling the propane was involved in an accident and then caught fire. The

tanker holds 7,500 gallons of propane. Propane is highly flammable and explosive. Grand Junction Fire, along with Fruita and Lower Valley Fire Departments, has been called to the scene.

Source: <http://www.kjet8.com/Global/story.asp?S=12114174>

2. *March 10, Justice News Flash* – (Tennessee) **Fuel tanker explodes at Nashville, TN gas station; driver critically burned.** A truck driver was severely burned after a fuel tanker explosion occurred at a gas station in close proximity to the Nashville International Airport the morning of March 9, 2010. The motorist who had been driving the tanker was reportedly standing outside of the truck when it burst into flames for unknown reasons, as reported by WSMV.com. According to Nashville Fire Department officials, the tanker was transporting fuel between the gas station's underground gas tanks when the blast and fire happened. The tanker was reportedly empty at the time. The blaze broke out at approximately 8:30 a.m. at a Raceway gas station on Donelson Pike. Witnesses at the scene reported flames reached approximately 30 feet, while a guest at a nearby hotel claimed hearing multiple explosions, seemingly causing the building to shake. Donelson Pike was closed pending preliminary investigations but was reopened to the public at 10:30 a.m. The 68-year-old truck driver suffered burns to 60 percent of his body. Fire rescue personnel seemingly transported the badly injured man to Vanderbilt University Medical Center. The tanker's cab and engine were apparently destroyed in the incident. Investigations into the cause of the explosion and fire are reportedly underway.

Source: http://www.justicenewsflash.com/2010/03/10/fuel-tanker-explodes-nashville-tn-gas-station-driver-critically-burned_201003103612.html

3. *March 9, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Coast Guard begins hearing on Texas oil spill.** An 800-foot tanker struggling with poor visibility and strong winds apparently failed to center itself in a narrow waterway off the Gulf of Mexico, possibly contributing to the January 23, 2010 collision with a tugboat that caused the largest oil spill in Texas in 15 years, according to testimony and evidence presented at a Coast Guard hearing on March 9. The tanker pilot's attempts to regain control of the ship by speeding up, pulling an emergency stop and throwing an anchor down at full-speed all proved fruitless, the first pilot said. At the last moment, it became clear the Eagle Otome would collide with the tugboat, the Dixie Vengeance. The tanker leaked 462,000 gallons of crude oil into the Sabine Neches Waterway off the Gulf Coast city of Port Arthur, forcing the waterway's temporary closure and harming some marine life but not causing any injuries. The pilots of both vessels were aware they were close to one another on January 23, but audio recordings and testimony indicate they initially thought they would be able to pass one another safely. Just moments before the collision, they had a calm conversation and even shared an off-color joke. But the captain, who was master of the Eagle Otome tanker that morning, testified he had become increasingly concerned about the ship's situation and had noticed it was having difficulty recovering from strong winds that were pushing the vessel too far to the west side of the narrow channel. The west side of the channel is reserved for a ship that needs to pass alongside from the other direction, he said. Visibility, one pilot testified, was "very, very" poor and he noticed at one point the ship was turning too sharply and

tried to help the pilot correct the angle. The Coast Guard and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the collision.

Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/03/09/1852588/coast-guard-begins-hearing-on.html>

For more stories, see items [21](#) and [31](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *March 10, KCCI 8 Des Moines* – (Iowa) **Truck carrying 7,000 gallons of ammonia crashes.** Emergency crews were on the scene of a anhydrous ammonia leak near Boone in central Iowa the morning of March 10. Officials said a tanker truck carrying the chemical went off Iowa Highway 17 around 4 a.m. on March 10. The truck crashed into a snowbank and into a ditch full of water where it overturned. The Boone County Emergency Management Director said there is a small leak, and officials believe it is caused by a release valve on the tanker. The tanker is carrying about 7,000 gallons of anhydrous ammonia. He said there are no evacuations and no one was injured. He said the chemical will be off-loaded onto another truck. He said a 3-mile stretch of Highway 17 was closed in both directions. The crash happened about 5 miles east of Boone.
Source: <http://www.kcci.com/news/22796110/detail.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

5. *March 10, Burlington Free Press* – (Vermont) **Robot explorer stuck in pipe at Yankee Nuclear.** A small robot looking for the source of a radioactive leak at the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant is stuck in the mud. Officials say the robot exploring a tunnel believed to be the source of a leak of radioactive tritium into the groundwater beneath the plant is mired in the sludge that plugged a drain in the tunnel. A Vermont Yankee spokesman tells the Rutland Herald The robot is about the size of a remote-controlled toy car. Plant officials say that since the drain was unplugged the level of radioactive tritium found in groundwater has dropped. The spokesman says the plan is to replace the leaking pipes during Vermont Yankee's next refueling outage, scheduled to begin next month.
Source:
<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20100310/NEWS02/100310016/Robot-explorer-stuck-in-pipe-at-Yankee-Nuclear>
6. *March 9, Telluride Daily Planet* – (Colorado) **Gov't supports uranium accountability bill.** As the President calls for more nuclear power, Colorado contemplates putting two uranium mills into operation. One would be new and located in Paradox Valley west of Telluride. The other is an old mill near Canon City, near Colorado Springs, that may be reopened. A new piece of legislation seeks to tighten up

the application process and ensure that old mills are cleaned up before new ones are opened, and the Telluride Town Council came out in support of it yesterday. The Uranium Processing Accountability Act would apply most directly to the Cotter-owned mill near Canon City, which first opened in 1958. It is still in the process of cleaning up contamination. The company applied to reopen the mill in 2001. If this bill passes, the Cotter Corp. could not re-open the mill until all the clean-up has been completed. The bill would also apply to the bonds that companies put up to pay for cleanup.

Source:

<http://www.telluridenews.com/articles/2010/03/09/news/doc4b9704e117eac935222270.txt>

7. *March 8, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (National) **NRC denies nuclear industry petition seeking extended deadline for security enhancements.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has denied a petition submitted by the Nuclear Energy Institute on September 25, 2009, that sought an additional nine months for nuclear power plants to comply with new security requirements. Specifically, the petition sought an expedited rulemaking that would revise the compliance date for new requirements in the power reactor security rule (10 CFR section 73.55) from March 31 to December 31. The petition was docketed and given immediate consideration due to the time sensitivity of the request. The request stated that two provisions of the new security rule dealing with physical barriers and detection and assessment systems were problematic to complete on time since they involve engineering analysis and design, equipment procurement, installation, testing, and related training. The NRC staff reviewed the petition and the Commission voted to deny it based on several reasons, including the lack of time before the compliance date for the staff to collect and analyze the necessary data and to complete an adequate notice and comment for rulemaking. The NRC believes the exemption process is the best regulatory tool to address this situation since it allows the NRC and the licensee to focus on the unique circumstances that pertain to each specific extension request.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-042.html>

8. *March 8, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (National) **NRC seeks comments on proposed staff guidance regarding radioactive liquid spills at new nuclear power plants.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is seeking public comment on two proposed staff guidance documents that would help applicants for new reactor designs and operating licenses properly analyze potential radioactive liquid spills at future reactors. The NRC's Office of New Reactors has made available Interim Staff Guidance (ISG)-013, "Assessing the Consequences of an Accidental Release of Radioactive Materials from Liquid Waste Tanks," and ISG-014, "Assessing Ground Water Flow and Transport of Accidental Radionuclide Releases." These documents will provide additional guidance in properly assessing how accidental releases of radioactive liquids could affect surface and groundwater resources. ISG-013 was previously open for comment in 2009; the NRC staff feels the public will benefit from commenting on both documents at the same time.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-044.html>

Critical Manufacturing Sector

9. *March 10, Consumer Affairs* – (National) **Toyota denies Prius recall is in the works.** Toyota has issued a statement denying media reports that it plans a new recall of the 2004-2009 Prius to address the potential risk for floor mat entrapment of accelerator pedals. “There is no new recall being planned for the Prius to address this issue,” the company said in a statement Tuesday. The company said the 2004-2009 Prius was part of Toyota’s November 2, 2009 announcement of a voluntary safety recall campaign to address floor mat entrapment in certain Toyota and Lexus vehicles. The remedy process for these vehicles began at the end of 2009 and is occurring on a rolling schedule during 2010, Toyota said. Owners of the involved vehicles that have not yet been remedied are asked to take out any removable driver’s side floor mat and not replace it with any other floor mat. But the driver of that 2008 Prius involved Monday in the highly publicized runaway car incident on the San Diego Freeway says the floor mat had nothing to do with the uncontrolled acceleration in his car. The man’s Prius took him on a terrifying 30 minute ride when he accelerated to pass a car and the car kept gaining speed, even though he pressed on the brakes. The man said he immediately looked down to see if the pedal was caught on the floor mat and said it was not. It is worth noting that ConsumerAffairs.com reported in 2007 that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration was “aware of” complaints of runaway acceleration in the popular Toyota Prius hybrid and at the time, said they were in a “monitoring mode.” “It is currently like dozens, or maybe hundreds, of other issues of this kind,” an agency official said at the time.

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2010/03/toyota_denial.html

10. *March 10, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Fire breaks out at industrial plant in east Houston.** Firefighters were called to a blaze at the American Thermoplastics company east of downtown last night. Crews arrived to find flames shooting out of some tall silos on the plant site around 10:30pm. Fire officials say the company had some plastic debris burning, but fully extinguished it. That byproduct then spread to one of the plant’s buildings. “The debris that was outside the building rolled on into the structure and caught part of it on fire,” said the District Chief with the Houston Fire Department. No chemicals were released into the air. Residents in the area were never in any danger. Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7320020>

11. *March 10, Aviation Week* – (National) **Boeing takes second 787 to California.** Boeing flew the second 787 (ZA002) from Seattle to Victorville, California, yesterday, the first time the new twinjet has left Washington state for a landing elsewhere. The expansion of 787 flight test operations out of state comes as Boeing prepares to fly the fourth aircraft (ZA003) and win type inspection authorization (TIA) from the FAA. This milestone, expected by the end of March, will clear the way for the start of certification tests. Boeing’s ambitious flight test and certification schedule calls for first deliveries to a launch carrier in the fourth quarter and is built on round-the-clock air and ground tests involving a core fleet of four Rolls-Royce- and two General Electric-powered 787s.

Balancing this, however, Boeing has reported “robust” performance from engines and systems on ZA001 and ZA002, giving the company optimism that it will achieve the necessary test rate with the remaining fleet. ZA002 is the first of up to three 787 test aircraft expected to be based temporarily out of Victorville where the 747-8 flight test effort will soon be located. Boeing is expected to begin two days of system gauntlet tests on ZA003, the cabin and interior systems test focus, today. The gauntlet phase signals that the upcoming first flight of ZA003 should occur around March 14, assuming no glitches crop up this week. The first 787 (ZA001) is continuing flutter tests, while ZA004 remains on the ground following its first and only flight to date. Tests are focused on an updated version of the flight control system software, as well as the engine-indicating and crew-alerting system.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=comm&id=news/avd/2010/03/10/05.xml

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *March 9, Gov Monitor* – (Connecticut) **Connecticut highlights new Air National Guard engine repair facility.** The Connecticut Governor celebrated the groundbreaking for an \$8.3 million, federally funded military jet engine repair facility at the Bradley Air National Guard Base in East Granby. The Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility (CIRF) will handle tests and troubleshooting for jet engines from A-10 Thunderbolt II ground-attack aircraft from all over the world. The A-10 – an extremely durable twin-engine, straight-wing jet mounting a rapid-fire gun – has seen action in both Iraq and Afghanistan. The project will improve and expand an existing TF-34 engine repair facility in East Granby as part of decisions made under the 2005 BRAC process. The CIRF will be a 36,000-square-foot facility. The new CIRF mission requires a second test location, so a T-9 Engine Test Cell is being relocated from another Air National Guard unit and will be installed on the new foundation being constructed at Bradley and expected to be completed the middle of this year. This facility will bolster the unit’s current capability to test and troubleshoot engines sent in by operational A-10 squadrons from around the globe and will provide state-of-the-art facilities for the 103rd Airlift Wing’s maintenance personnel.

Source: http://thegovmonitor.com/world_news/united_states/connecticut-highlights-new-air-national-guard-engine-repair-facility-25693.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *March 10, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Phishing update: ‘No brand is safe’.** Online fraud schemes and malware are casting an even wider net, far beyond the large national banks and well-known retailers, as phishers seek new victims. This is the word from the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), which has just issued its latest

quarterly report on phishing trends. According to the APWG's fourth quarter 2009 report, the number of hijacked brands hit a record 356 in October, compared to the previous record month of 341 in August 2009. No brand, no matter how small or obscure, is safe from online fraud says the APWG's secretary general. "Once, only the largest banks were targeted," he says. "Now every kind of enterprise from banks and credit unions of all sizes to charities to, in a recent case, a hardware manufacturer, are seeing their brands exploited in all manner of fraud schemes." This report backs up reports of businesses receiving phishing emails asking for recipients to take action or update their banking online passwords, as in the case of the Comerica Bank phishing lawsuit.

Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2277

14. *March 10, Wall Street Journal* – (International) **Apparent web-site scam targets victims of Madoff's Ponzi scheme.** A Web site claiming to help victims of a Ponzi artist's fraud is apparently attempting to defraud them, a securities-industry group warned. The Securities Investor Protection Corp, an agency set up by Congress to help customers of failed brokerages, said that a Web site called i-sipc.com is mimicking SIPC's own Web site, sipc.org, in an attempt to obtain sensitive information or money from the Ponzi artist's victims. SIPC has been providing funds of as much as \$500,000 to certain investors who lost money with the disgraced former broker. To qualify, the victims provided the agency with financial and other personal data. The apparent scammers, using the name "I-SIPC," or International Security Investor Protection Corp., are soliciting victims to submit claims, which SIPC says could result in "phishing" or other identify-theft problems. The apparently phony group claims to be based in Geneva and says it has ties to the United Nations.

Source:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748704784904575111632667595448.html>
1

15. *March 9, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans* – (Pennsylvania) **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans notifies members and clients of breach of unsecured personal information.** Thrivent Financial for Lutherans recently experienced a break-in at one of its offices in Pennsylvania and a laptop computer was among the items stolen. The laptop had a variety of safeguards to protect sensitive information, including strong password protection and encryption. However, Thrivent Financial believes that the information stored on the laptop may be at risk. This includes personal information, including name, address, social security number and health information. Thrivent Financial does not have any evidence at this time suggesting that any information has been accessed or misused, and local police are continuing their investigation. Notification has been made to affected members and clients of Thrivent Financial informing them that sensitive information such as their name, address, social security number and health information may have been exposed. All affected individuals are being offered a one year free credit monitoring and identity theft assistance services and Thrivent Financial will work with them to rectify any issues that arise from this unfortunate incident.

Source:

http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20100309006450&newsLang=en

16. *March 9, The Register* – (National) **Fraud-prevention service ponies up \$12m for ‘false’ ads.** An Arizona company that sells services designed to prevent identity theft has agreed to pay \$12m to settle charges it oversold their effectiveness and didn’t adequately protect sensitive customer data. LifeLock, which since 2006 has run TV and print ads displaying the social security number of its CEO, agreed to stop misrepresenting its service as a foolproof way to prevent identity theft, according to the US Federal Trade Commission. The consumer watchdog agency and attorneys general from 35 states claimed the company’s \$10-per-month service failed to stop the most prevalent forms of the crimes. A complaint filed in federal court in Arizona alleged that alerts LifeLock placed on customer credit files protected against only so-called new account fraud, in which scammers open new credit accounts using the name and social security number of the victim. New account fraud accounted for just 17 per cent of identity theft incidents, according to an FTC survey released in 2007. The agreement also took aim at claims LifeLock made that it routinely encrypted customers’ social security and credit card numbers and granted its employees access to such data strictly on a need-to-know basis. FTC attorneys charged that such claims were false. The settlement requires LifeLock to establish a comprehensive data security program and obtain independent third-party assessments for 20 years.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/09/lifelock_settlement/

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Transportation Sector

17. *March 10, Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Speed restrictions magnify Metro train delays.** Metro officials say manually operated trains are running slower and dozens of track problems are adding to the delays. Transit agency officials say trains have been late 11 percent of the time mostly because they have been run manually since the fatal red line crash last year. But an internal report obtained by the Washington Examiner shows that there were 59 speed restrictions on the rail system one week last month. The report says operators had to slow trains because of track circuit malfunctions, worn rails, slick conditions and other safety problems. The number of speed restrictions varies and Metro says it had 36 speed restrictions on Tuesday.
Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1908689>
18. *March 10, Washington Post* – (Texas) **Napolitano says suicide plane crash wasn’t related to domestic terrorism.** A suicide plane crash that killed the pilot and an Internal Revenue Service worker at an office building in Austin on February 18 was not a case of domestic terrorism, the U.S. Homeland Security Secretary said Tuesday in a radio interview. The pilot “had his own personal issues and personal motives” and was

carrying out a personal agenda, said the Secretary. “To our belief, he was a lone wolf. He used a terrorist tactic, but an individual who uses a terrorist tactic doesn’t necessarily mean they are part of an organized group attempting an attack on the United States,” she said.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/09/AR2010030903475.html?nav=rss_nation/special

19. *March 10, Frederick News-Post* – (Maryland; District of Columbia) **Plane violates D.C. airspace, lands in Frederick.** An airplane violated restricted airspace around Washington on Tuesday evening and was forced to land at Frederick Municipal Airport in Maryland, authorities said. The Federal Aviation Administration alerted the North American Aerospace Defense Command, which monitors aerospace control, at about 6 p.m., said a North American Aerospace Defense Command spokesman. “Once we identified the aircraft had violated this temporary flight restricted airspace around D.C., we launched two H-65 Dolphin helicopters from the Coast Guard,” the spokesman said. The helicopters intercepted the aircraft and escorted it to the Frederick airport, he said. An FAA spokeswoman said the airplane was a single-engine Cessna 172. She confirmed that the plane took off from Frederick’s airport and then flew into the northwest side of the restricted airspace around the nation’s capital. She said the plane more likely than not unintentionally strayed off-course.

Source: <http://wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1908555>

20. *March 9, USA Today* – (National) **NTSB: Pilots need air-hazard skills.** Accident investigators say new flight simulators could help correct the biggest killer in aviation: pilots who can not recover from out-of-control situations like the one that killed 50 people in a crash near Buffalo last year. Pilots at airlines receive almost no hands-on training in how to recover from aerodynamic stalls and other extreme scenarios, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The reason for the glaring shortfall is that current flight simulators, the backbone of airline training programs, cannot accurately reproduce such calamities. Years of research in the military and NASA has led to new simulators that accurately represent how planes behave in stalls, severe icing, and other crash scenarios, according to the NTSB and scientists — but there is no federal requirement to use those simulators. A USA Today review of NTSB accident reports over the past decade found that 317 of the 433 airline fatalities on U.S. carriers since 2000 — or 73 percent — could have been prevented with better simulator training. The Air Line Pilots Association says better simulators and other training improvements can reduce accidents. The deputy director of the Federal Aviation Administration’s Flight Standards division said the agency would prefer to focus on training that helps pilots avoid losing control.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-03-08-flight-simulator-accidents-pilot-training_N.htm

21. *March 9, Carroll Daily Times Herald* – (Iowa) **Defective rail blamed after coal cars derail near Scranton.** A broken rail is being blamed for the derailment of 30 coal cars Sunday night 5 miles east of Scranton, Iowa. The train had been loaded at Wyoming and was bound for a power plant in Illinois, according to a Union Pacific (UP)

spokesman. No one was injured but the derailment wiped out the crossing and tore up 450 feet of track on both main lines. There were about 20 pieces of heavy equipment involved in cleanup on Monday. Workers worked overnight to clear the rail bed and stack 3,000 tons of coal that had spilled on the right of way and replacing track and the crossing. Damaged cars were dragged off the rail bed, and coal was piled for salvaging. UP crews determined that a rail had fractured near the crossing.

Source:

<http://www.carrollspaper.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=9828>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), and [4](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *March 9, Ventura County Star* – (California) **Camarillo office receives unidentified powder in mail.** An unidentified powdery substance was found on March 9 in a letter mailed to a Mercury Insurance office in Camarillo, leading to an evacuation but no apparent injuries, authorities said. Ventura County Fire Department and FBI officials said the substance was not hazardous, but they did not elaborate, saying further testing was necessary. Emergency personnel responded about 10:30 a.m. to the office in the Mission Oaks Business Park complex on Adolfo Road after an employee opened an envelope and found an unknown white substance, authorities said. County firefighters and Sheriff's Department deputies also responded, along with an Oxnard Fire Department hazardous materials team. Three people were exposed to the substance, which was released when a office clerk was routinely opening mail. The hazardous materials team determined the substance was "not life-threatening," but he did not say what the substance was. The incident is being investigated by the FBI, Ventura County Sheriff's Department, and U.S. Postal Inspector.

Source: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/mar/09/authorities-investigating-unknown-substance-in/>

23. *March 9, KFFB 5 Helena* – (Montana) **Suspicious powder found in mail in Helena.** The Department of Labor and Industry in Helena, Montana, received a scare through the mail on March 9, which shut down part of the Capitol area for most of the day. Helena fire, police, as well as the National Guard Civil Support Team responded to the incident. At about 9 am March 9 an envelope was opened that produced a suspicious white powder on the third floor of the Department of Labor and Industry building, which is just across the street from the Capitol. A public information officer said they wanted to be very cautious on approaching the substance and try to identify it as soon as possible, which is why the haz mat team was notified. 180 people work in the building, they were not evacuated. However, 35 employees on the third floor were moved to another part of the building. Three workers, plus a Helena officer were isolated because they all came within close proximity of the substance. The Bureau Chief of Communicable Disease reminded everyone of the white powder that was

going around not too long ago. He said the main concern was anthrax or other chemical contaminants. Shortly after 2 p.m., the National Guard Civil Support team, who specializes in biological chemicals, did emerge from the building and deemed the substance unharful.

Source: <http://www.kfbb.com/news/local/87173267.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *March 10, Associated Press* – (Nevada; National) **Company continued to sell tainted ingredient after finding salmonella, FDA inspectors say.** The company responsible for a ballooning recall of processed foods continued to manufacture and distribute a flavor-enhancing ingredient for a month after tests confirmed it was made with contaminated equipment, according to a Food and Drug Administration report. FDA inspectors said the company, Las Vegas-based Basic Food Flavors Inc., knew of salmonella contamination on its equipment after it received the results of a private inspection on January 21. They said the company continued to distribute the ingredient, called hydrolyzed vegetable protein (HVP), until February 15. The FDA began an investigation of the company in response to a report from one of Basic Food Flavors' customers about salmonella contamination. After a February visit to the plant, agency inspectors reported finding "light brown residue" and "dark brown liquid" in and around the paste mixers and inside pipes used to manufacture the ingredient. The agency said the company began notifying customers of the recall on February 26 after discussions with the government. It was publicly announced by the FDA a week later. No illnesses have been associated with the recall, according to the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-us-processed-foods-recall,0,4873103.story>

25. *March 10, KFOR 4 Miami* – (Florida) **Avocado farmers fear tiny beetle found in S. Fla.** A little beetle could cause big problems for South Florida's avocado industry. Florida's Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner announced Tuesday that a redbay ambrosia beetle, which spreads a fungus that kills avocado trees, has been found in an insect trap in Miami-Dade County. The beetle, which transmits the fungus called laurel wilt disease, was found in the Emerald Lakes in western Miami-Dade. Prior to this find, the redbay ambrosia beetle had not been found south of Martin County. This is a major concern for Florida avocado farmers. Second only to citrus, avocados are one of Florida's biggest crops; the fruit bearing trees are grown on more than seven thousand acres in South Florida and bring in more than \$30 million annually.

Source: <http://cbs4.com/local/Redbay.Ambrosia.Beetle.2.1550450.html>

26. *March 9, Waste and Recycling News* – (Pennsylvania) **Pa. dairy farm to close for failing to manage manure.** Operators of a Fulton County, Pennsylvania dairy farm will cease operations following failure to manage the farm's manure and manure lagoon adequately, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection said. The

farm's lagoon discharges into a nearby creek, where there was a fish kill in November. Under a consent decree with the state, the farmers will pay 12,920 in penalties and vacate the leased farm near McConellsburg by May 1. "Given an option, the farmers chose to cease farming operations and vacate the McConnellsburg site rather than perform major upgrades needed to bring the facility into compliance," said the DEP South-central Regional Director. "As part of the agreement, the farmers developed and must now implement an interim manure management plan for this farm."

Source:

<http://www.wasterecyclingnews.com/headlines2.html?id=1268147217&allowcomm=true>

27. *March 9, MeatingPlace.com* – (Indiana) **Update: Tyson plant in Indiana resumes limited operations after fire.** Tyson Foods Inc. resumed limited pork processing operations at its Logansport, Indiana plant Saturday after a fire Friday caused damage to the plant roof. Workers have resumed processing operations but pig slaughter operations are suspended because investigators suspect a piece of equipment used to singe pig hair off carcasses may have malfunctioned, causing the fire. "The roof has been repaired and we're in the process of replacing equipment and doing electrical rewiring," a Tyson spokesman said to Meatingplace. "It currently appears it could be late this week or early next week before we're able to resume slaughter operations."

Source: http://eatdrinkandbe.org/article/index.0309_fs_updateindfire

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Water Sector

28. *March 10, Huntsville Item* – (Texas) **Line break forces wastewater into McGary Creek.** City of Huntsville Public Utilities workers spent much of Monday and Tuesday working to repair a broken wastewater force main that caused approximately 1 million gallons of wastewater to spill into McGary Creek just west of Huntsville. The Public Utilities director said the line was repaired at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. "We notified the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and local government officials immediately when we discovered the broken main. The discharge stopped at 11 a.m. Tuesday because we cut off the lift station so we didn't have any more sewage spilling into the creek," she said. Monday morning, a worker at the Robinson Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility noticed a significant drop in the flow of a force main leading to the plant. The director said such a drop is usually indicative of a leak. She said the source of the leak was a split in the pipe, which caused the wastewater to rush out of the pipe casing and into the creek, which flows into the San Jacinto River Basin. The main was immediately shut down, and crews began working to repair the split pipe. She said the wastewater flow has been tracked, and that no drinking water sources in the area have been affected. After the repairs are completed an investigation into the cause of the leak will be launched.

Source: <http://itemonline.com/local/x1897232102/Line-break-forces-wastewater-into-McGary-Creek>

29. *March 10, Olympian* – (Washington) **Time to look toward potential water shortage.** State officials have taken one look at the snowpack in the Olympic and Cascade mountain ranges and concluded that Washington could be in for a water shortage this year. Standing before reporters in her conference room last week, the governor pointed to a map that showed snowpack levels across the state. Only the Olympic peninsula region was shown in green with 101 percent of average snowpack. The regions along the Cascade mountains and their foothills ranged from 50 percent in central Puget Sound to 66 percent in the north Puget Sound region. Eastern Washington was in better shape with 80 percent in the upper Columbia, 77 percent in Central Columbia, and 82 percent in the lower Yakima region. The governor asked for \$4.1 million to be put into the emergency account. The money would be spent to deepen wells or to lease water from senior water right holders. “We do not have the resources necessary should this drought continue out,” she told reporters. 70 percent to 80 percent of Washington’s surface water supplies come from mountain snowmelt in the summer. Source: <http://www.theolympian.com/2010/03/10/1166984/missing-headline-for-10oeditb1.html>
30. *March 9, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Customers expected to get water back Thursday.** Public works officials say water should be restored by Thursday morning to 15,000 Baltimore County customers still affected by a water main break over the weekend. The 36-inch main broke Saturday, and repairs have been slow because it is in a remote area. Crews had to build a road and divert a stream to begin repairs. Those still without water are primarily in Reisterstown and Glyndon. Public works officials say it is difficult to get water back into those homes because the backup water main is much smaller and not suitable for refilling the system. Officials say service should return to “reasonably normal levels” by Thursday morning. Eleven schools have been closed for two days because of the break. Source: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/ap/schools-remain-closed-after-water-main-break-87102992.html>
31. *March 9, WACH 57 Columbia* – (South Carolina) **Residents fear tainted water from SCE&G.** On Tuesday, residents in lower Richland County went public with their concerns about DHEC’s pending decision to eliminate arsenic in a wastewater discharge permit for SCE&G. SCE&G needs the permit for its power station located upstream from the Congaree National Park, where wastewater from coal ash ponds runs into the Wateree River. “Pretty much contaminant go down stream, so for us, the Wateree River does end in the Congaree National Park,” said a spokeswoman of the Congaree National Park. SCE&G is backed by DHEC that modifying the permit will not put the Wateree River at risk for arsenic. “It still ensures that the water quality is upheld to the EPA’s current criteria,” said a spokesperson of SCE&G. DHEC officials said if the permit changes are approved, they will be monitoring the power company’s discharge on a regular basis. A final decision has not been made. Source: <http://www.midlandsconnect.com/news/story.aspx?id=427553>
32. *March 7, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Chesterfield seeks funds to combat invasive weed.** Chesterfield County, Virginia, is seeking nearly \$3 million in federal

funds to stave off an aquatic weed threatening the quality of a major water source, the Swift Creek Reservoir. Hydrilla, a nuisance weed indigenous to Asia, has spread rapidly in the 1,700-acre reservoir in recent months, infesting almost 750 acres. County officials believe it eventually could cover more than half of the impoundment and degrade water quality as plants that die decay, stealing oxygen from the water. The reservoir provides about 25 percent of the county's drinking water. The county is requesting funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Aquatic Plant Control program for \$2.9 million. If granted, it would fund a 10-year program to fight the weed, including stocking the reservoir with 8,500 sterile grass carp, which feed on the plant. It would pay for mechanical harvesting services to clear infested areas close to shore, allowing better boat access, which has been hampered by the thick tangles of weeds. A slice of the grant also would be set aside for shoreline cleanup efforts. Regardless of the grant, the county is moving forward with the introduction of carp and is now accepting bids. "Once you have hydrilla, it's essentially impossible to totally get rid of it because it is so productive and prolific," said the county Utilities director. "But you can control it, and we hope to achieve that in a period of two to three years."

Source: http://www2.timesdispatch.com/rtd/news/local/article/B4-HYDR07_20100306-210003/328777/

For another story, see item [26](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *March 10, KRIV 26 Houston* – (Texas) **Suspicious fire causes hospital evacuation.** Arson investigators are questioning a person of interest after a suspicious fire forces a late-night evacuation of St. Joseph Medical Center. Firefighters arrived at approximately 11 p.m. Tuesday to the downtown Houston hospital after learning of a fire in the emergency room. Upon arrival, firefighters found smoke coming from the first floor. People who were on the first floor were evacuated one level up to the second floor. Investigators later found a stack of sheets that had been set on fire.

Source: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/100310-suspicious-fire-causes-hospital-evacuation>

34. *March 10, Bloomberg* – (National) **J&J pushed Risperdal for elderly after U.S. warning, files show.** Johnson & Johnson made plans to reach \$302 million in geriatric sales for its antipsychotic Risperdal just months after federal regulators said the company falsely claimed the drug was safe and effective with the elderly, according to internal documents. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration told J&J in 1999 that its marketing materials for geriatric patients overstated Risperdal's benefits and minimized risks. A J&J business plan for the next year called for increasing the drug's market share for elderly dementia sales, an unapproved use, according to newly unsealed documents in a lawsuit by the state of Louisiana. "The geriatric market represents Risperdal's second wave of growth," J&J officials wrote in the business plan. "The aging population will continue to drive market growth well into the next century."

Louisiana officials cited the document and dozens of other internal J&J files in its lawsuit claiming the company marketed Risperdal to the elderly and children for unapproved uses. A professor at Harvard Medical School, who is not involved in the case, called the papers “one of the more egregious examples” of marketing drugs to vulnerable patients.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601109&sid=ag4Ya8UOIob0&pos=13>

35. *March 9, Nextgov.com* – (Georgia) **VA investigating security breach of veterans’ medical data.** The Veterans Affairs Department’s inspector general has launched a criminal investigation into a physician assistant’s alleged downloading of veterans’ clinical data at its Atlanta medical center, sources have told Nextgov. The assistant allegedly recorded two sets of patient data on to a personal laptop for research purposes. One set included three years’ worth of patient data and another held 18 years of medical information, according to a source familiar with the incident and who asked not to be identified. The VA’s chief information officer commented on an item about the incident that was posted Monday evening on a Nextgov blog that the physician assistant’s laptop was never connected to the VA network and any data she recorded on her laptop was “hand entered.” But the source told Nextgov the VA inspector general is investigating whether the assistant used two thumb drives to transfer the data to the laptop. The department has not disclosed the number of patients involved in the incident, what kind of personal data was copied, or whether it plans to notify the veterans whose records were downloaded.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100309_9888.php?oref=topstory

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Government Facilities Sector

36. *March 10, Lake County News-Sun* – (Illinois) **Deerfield teen suspect in bomb threat.** A 16-year-old Deerfield High School student was taken into custody in connection with a bomb threat that was left in a school bathroom February 2. The student could face charges related to the bomb threat and charges of criminal damage to property. The Deputy police chief said the break in the bomb-threat case came as investigators were looking into criminal damage to property at the school. The student was released to his father pending a review by the juvenile division of the Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office. The deputy police chief said police were investigating several instances of criminal damage to property at the school when the student also became the focus of the bomb threat investigation.

Source:

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/news/2093737,5_1_WA10_BOMB_S1-100310.article

37. *March 10, Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Web threats prompt lockdown of Minneapolis schools.** The Minneapolis School District has locked down all of its schools after police informed officials of vague threats posted on the Web. A district

spokeswoman says the threats were posted on two social networking sites. The threats did not specify a school, so they were all put on alert. She says the 34,000 students in the district continue to go to class on Wednesday, but access to the buildings is restricted. The lockdown started Wednesday morning, and she says it is not clear how long it will last. She says the district has notified parents with its automated telephone system. Another announcement will go out when the district knows more. She says the Minneapolis Police Department is investigating.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,588728,00.html>

38. *March 9, Washington Post* – (National) **Pentagon shooting puts federal building security back in spotlight.** House members will resume discussions next week about federal building security in the wake of last week's shooting at the Pentagon — the latest attack on federal facilities across the country. The House subcommittee on the federal workforce plans to focus especially on how federal agencies are sharing tips on threats with local law enforcement agencies, which could be unfamiliar with the tenants and security efforts at government buildings in their jurisdictions. Separately, aides to the chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee said he plans to introduce a bill with proposed federal security changes in April, after delaying it last fall to account for the shootings at Fort Hood, Texas. "These recent assaults on federal employees seem to be motivated by a deep-seated and irrational hostility against the government," the Senator said late last week.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/08/AR2010030803788.html>

39. *March 9, KSTU 13 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **IRS building evacuated due to suspicious package.** An IRS building in downtown Salt Lake City was evacuated on March 9 after a suspicious package was found. Two-hundred East between South Temple and 300 South, which surrounds the IRS building were closed at the time of the incident but are now expected to reopen after the package in question was found to be not dangerous. The large black package was spotted at about 3:00 p.m. resting on one of the pillars of the building. The bomb squad detonated the package at around 5:00 p.m. and found only personal belongings inside. A spokeswoman of the Salt Lake Police Department said the package was found to not be dangerous. The spokeswoman said roads that are now closed surrounding the IRS Building will reopen as soon as officials clean up the investigation. She said the entire IRS building was evacuated, which also houses several businesses. The spokeswoman said it was near closing time when the package was found and the building was evacuated. "It was a big black package. There was no one around it. Nobody saw who put it there. We didn't receive any calls and there wasn't a note or anything, but it was against one of the pillars of the IRS building, which made it suspicious enough in itself," said the spokeswoman. "So we thought to take the highest precautions to evacuate everybody and take care of it."

Source: <http://www.fox13now.com/news/kstu-irs-building-evacuated-suspicious-package,0,225912.story>

40. *March 9, American Statesman* – (Texas) **Security added at Capitol.** Security is increasing at the Texas Capitol, though it might not be obvious. Visitors might notice

the new bicycle patrols and bomb-sniffing dogs, but other upgrades, including additional officer training and an e-mail notification system to alert state employees of an emergency, probably will escape attention. The changes were disclosed Tuesday by state leaders in a letter to the director of the Department of Public Safety, which is responsible for security at the Capitol. The leaders — the governor and the House and Senate presiding officers — were responding to an incident last month in which a man fired shots outside the Capitol after being asked to leave a senator's office. But a plan to install metal detectors and X-ray machines in the building is still under discussion and is expected to be talked about at a legislative hearing later this month. DPS officials recommended the machines last month, but few details were released except to lawmakers in private briefings.

Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/texas-politics/security-added-at-capitol-336724.html>

41. *March 9, Techworld.com* – (National) **Bogus intranets scam university students.** Universities and their population of students have been marked as the next soft target by online criminals, security company RSA has reported. In recent weeks, the company has detected a sudden rise in targeted attacks on U.S. universities — particularly public state institutions — against internal Web sites used to serve students with services such as webmail. Such servers often contain personal data such as grades, names, addresses, and payment information. The company offers screenshots from one attack in its February Online Fraud Report, that of a bogus Web site purporting to belong to an unnamed university. It is not clear how a student would have found such a site assuming a direct URL was already in existence, but any student logging into what appeared to be the official webmail site would have had their data harvested. RSA is unsure as to the specific motivation for the hacks, but speculates that gaining access to an internal server could serve various purposes, including launching phishing attacks that impersonate official communication, gaining access to personal data to launch identity theft attacks at a later date, or setting up student loan scams.
- Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9167978/Bogus_intranets_scam_university_students

42. *March 9, WQOW 18 Eau Claire* – (Wisconsin) **Students evacuated after another bomb threat.** More than 200 students were evacuated Tuesday afternoon from a Cornell, Wisconsin, school. The superintendent says the building was emptied shortly after noon. The Cornell Police and Fire Departments responded, and cleared the building about 45 minutes later. District leaders believe they know who left the note and that an expulsion hearing could happen later this month. The student who allegedly left the threat was a 7th grader. On January 12th, a bomb threat at the same school canceled all evening activities. Around that same time, there were three bomb threats in one week at the Lake Holcombe K-12 school.
- Source: <http://www.wqow.com/Global/story.asp?S=12111364>

For another story, see item [23](#)

Emergency Services Sector

43. *March 10, Dade County Sentinel* – (Georgia) **Threats made against sheriff and employees.** Late last month, the Dade County Sheriff's office began receiving telephone calls from a male that threatened to kill the sheriff and all of the employees that work at the sheriff's office unless certain inmates were released. Dade County detectives and agents from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation worked on the case for two days. During the investigation, the male subject had called eight different times and during each call he threatened to shoot and kill multiple people at the sheriff's office. Detectives were able to identify the man, of Augusta, who is a former resident of Dade County. On March 5, he was arrested in Augusta and transported back to the Dade County Jail. He is being charged with multiple charges including domestic terrorism, terroristic threats, and harassing communications.

Source:

<http://www.dadesentinel.com/content.aspx?module=ContentItem&ID=167009&MemberID=1338>

44. *March 9, San Bernardino Press-Enterprise* – (California) **Improvements needed to make Hemet city buildings safe from attack, chief says.** Security at city buildings is inadequate, and employees cannot be presumed to be safe, Hemet, California's police chief said Tuesday. He made his remarks to City Council members, who approved spending \$55,000 to install security fences around the police building and improve electronic surveillance there. The money will come from an account created for such purposes that is funded by developer fees. Also Tuesday, the council awarded almost \$1 million in federal grants to social service organizations. Security is taking on greater urgency in the city in the wake of three attacks on the Hemet-San Jacinto Gang Task Force. The latest took place Friday in Hemet when an officer noticed a device on the pavement next to his unmarked car. Police said the device was designed to kill the officer. The chief said his department has formed committees to find ways to make the police building, City Hall, the city yard and other buildings safer from attack.

Source:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/stories/PE_News_Local_W_hemet10.48195ce.html

45. *March 9, Radio Iowa* – (Iowa) **Brief case causes bomb scare at Polk County jail.** There was a bomb scare at the Polk County, Iowa, jail Monday. The Polk County Sheriff's Department says the bomb squad was called to the jail just after 3 p.m. over a suspicious brief case. The department says a person who was arrested and brought to the jail had the brief case with them. Jail officials became concerned after putting the brief case through an x-ray machine. Employees and visitors were evacuated from the jail while the bomb squad examined the brief case and determined it was not a bomb. Officials are not saying what caused them to become suspicious, and have not identified the person who brought the brief case to the jail.

Source: <http://www.radioiowa.com/2010/03/09/brief-case-causes-bomb-scare-at-polk-county-jail/>

46. *March 9, Florida Today* – (Florida) **2 arrested in arson of Brevard fire truck.** Two men have been booked in Brevard County Detention Center on charges related to the theft and burning of a Brevard County Fire-Rescue pickup truck March 1. The men were arrested on charges of aggravated assault with a firearm, grand theft, arson and occupied armed burglary of a residence. The sheriff's office said the two stole a gun from a vehicle on Sundial Court in an unincorporated area of Brevard near Cocoa March 1 and then shot at a homeowner on nearby Haley Court. The homeowner, who was not injured, confronted them. The damage to the truck and other stolen equipment was estimated at \$21,000.

Source:

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20100309/BREAKINGNEWS/100309021/1006/news01/2+arrested+in+arson+of+Brevard+fire+truck>

For another story, see item [33](#)

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Information Technology Sector

47. *March 10, Help Net Security* – (International) **Human exploit attacks surpass the software flaw approach.** Barracuda Labs released its annual report for 2009, in which they highlight the shifts in Internet user behavior and the resulting attacker trends. Throughout 2009, Twitter experienced a number of attacks involving phishing, spam, worms, DDoS, compromised DNS records and site defacement. As millions of users flocked to Twitter, criminals followed. Accounts were used for poisoning trending topics with shortened malicious URLs. In 2009, one in eight accounts was considered to be malicious, suspicious or otherwise misused and was subsequently suspended. The shift towards human exploits was obvious - 69 percent of attacks were perpetrated using social engineering (FakeAV and phishing) and search result poisoning, compared to 39 percent carried out using software exploits. Web exploit kits were increasingly used by attackers to host exploits on compromised sites.
- Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=8997>

48. *March 10, Infosecurity* – (International) **Brocade: Half of network solutions only stop one in four network attacks.** Almost one in five participants at the RSA conference last week believe that their companies' security policies are being effectively enforced, according to figures released by data center fabric company Brocade. That said, at least half of them seem to be unhappy with their companies' security technology solutions. Brocade, which interviewed 144 RSA Conference attendees from a wide variety of different sectors, found that 18 percent of respondents believed company security policies were being totally enforced. One in 10 respondents felt that not enough policies were being enforced effectively at the network security level, however. The remainder fell somewhere in between. Brocade also found that almost half of all respondents believe their network security solutions are less than 25 percent effective in stopping security threats. Forty-eight percent of them said that their network security stopped one in four or fewer network attacks against their

organizations.

Source: <http://www.infosecurity-us.com/view/7925/brocade-half-of-network-solutions-only-stop-one-in-four-network-attacks/>

49. *March 9, The Register* – (International) **New Internet Explorer code-execution attacks go wild.** Online miscreants are exploiting a security bug in earlier versions of Internet Explorer that allows them to remotely execute malicious code, Microsoft warned on March 9. The vulnerability in IE versions 6 and 7 allows remote attackers to gain the same access to the affected PC as the local user. The bug, which stems from an invalid pointer reference, either doesn't exist in IE 8 or can't be exploited in that version, providing users with yet another strong reason to upgrade to Microsoft's latest browser. "At this time, we are aware of targeted attacks attempting to use this vulnerability," a member of Microsoft's security team wrote in an advisory. "In a web-based attack scenario, an attacker could host a web site that contains a web page that is used to exploit this vulnerability. In addition, compromised web sites and web sites that accept or host user-provided content or advertisements could contain specially crafted content that could exploit this vulnerability." Microsoft didn't provide additional details about the targeted attacks. The IE vulnerability is separate from one disclosed recently that allows attackers to remotely execute malware by tricking users into pressing the F1 button, which is typically used to present a help screen.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/09/internet_explorer_attacks/

50. *March 9, IDG News Service* – (International) **Twitter to begin screening some links for phishing.** Twitter launched a new link-screening service on March 8 aimed at preventing phishing and other malicious attacks against users of the popular microblogging service. Part of the new service is a new Twitter tool to shorten URLs, so users will see some links in e-mail notifications and direct messages from other users written as twt.tl, Twitter said in a blog post. "By routing all links submitted to Twitter through this new service, we can detect, intercept, and prevent the spread of bad links," the blog post said. "Even if a bad link is already sent out in an email notification and somebody clicks on it, we'll be able keep that user safe," it said without elaborating.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9168378/Twitter_to_begin_screening_some_links_for_phishing

51. *March 9, The Register* – (International) **It's official: Adobe Reader is world's most-exploited app.** Adobe's ubiquitous Reader application has replaced Microsoft Word as the program that's most often targeted in malware campaigns, according to figures compiled by F-Secure. Files based on Reader were exploited in almost 49 percent of the targeted attacks of 2009, compared with about 39 percent that took aim at Microsoft Word. By comparison, in 2008, Acrobat was targeted in almost 29 percent of attacks and Word was exploited by almost 35 percent. Underscoring the surge of Reader attacks, online miscreants recently unleashed a new malware campaign that exploits vulnerabilities patched three weeks ago in the widely-used program. The attacks target financial institutions with a PDF file with a name that refers to the so-called Group of

20 most influential economic powers. When victims click on the file with unpatched versions of Reader, the file installs a backdoor that causes their system to connect to a server at tiantian.ninth.biz.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/09/adobe_reader_attacks/

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

52. *March 9, IDG News Service* – (National) **Data issue hits BlackBerry devices for second day.** Some BlackBerry users are complaining of an inability to use data services for the second day in a row. It appears that the issue could be related to two separate problems. While some users seemed to be back in business late on March 9, others were still having problems. Research In Motion does not appear to have commented on the problem and had not replied to a request for comment by the time this story posted. Via Twitter, T-Mobile has acknowledged that there is an issue. “We are working with Research In Motion to resolve the outage as quickly as possible,” it said in a recent Twitter message. One of the problems seems to be affecting some users of BlackBerry phones that have Wi-Fi capability, although the problem does not affect those users when they are connected to Wi-Fi networks. Instead, those users have trouble using data services when they are on mobile networks. That’s according to a user report on the Data Outages forum.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9168358/Data_issue_hits_BlackBerry_devices_for_second_day

53. *March 8, IDG News Service* – (National) **Navajo Nation may get cutting-edge LTE network.** If a pending federal grant is approved, one of the first LTE (Long-Term Evolution) wireless broadband networks in the U.S. will be built across 15,120 square miles of desert. The network, backed up by a 550-mile fiber backbone and microwave links, could make the Internet bloom for about 30,000 households in the Navajo Nation, which stretches across a vast region encompassing parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Fewer than 10 percent of the homes and businesses in the Nation have broadband currently, according to the IT manager for Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), a multiservice utility that will operate the network. Mobile service is limited to 2G (second-generation) technology. NTUA hopes to hear this week or next that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has approved its application for a grant of about US\$46 million to link this area to the Internet. The utility already has one LTE base station operating in a test, and if all goes

as planned, service would be commercially available to some residents in the fourth quarter.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/191050/navajo_nation_may_get_cutting_edge_lte_network.html

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Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *March 10, Associated Press* – (International) **US aid group attacked in NW Pakistan; 6 dead.** Suspected militants armed with grenades attacked the offices of a U.S.-based aid group helping earthquake survivors in northwestern Pakistan on Wednesday, killing six employees and wounding several others, police and the organization said. All the victims of the assault on World Vision, a major humanitarian group, were Pakistanis. He said about 10 gunmen took part in the raid. The attack seriously damaged the aid group's office, leaving the ground strewn with rubble and the concrete walls pockmarked with bullet holes, AP Television News footage showed.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hkiMxbHNNH0BqgpWA2ZG6VD6wVTmAD9EBPU200>

55. *March 9, WPIX 11 New York* – (New York) **Flatiron Apartment evacuated after building deemed unsafe.** An apartment building located in the trendy Flatiron District has been evacuated due to hazardous living conditions, PIX News has learned. A spokesperson for the Department of Buildings told PIX News the complex is violating safety codes by not having sprinklers and secondary exits, which could pose a serious risk in case of a fire. In addition, inspectors found the 17-story building, located at 1182 Broadway, had 54 illegal residential units. The Department of Buildings, along with New York City police, immediately notified tenants Tuesday urging them to vacate the building by the end of today. As a result, residents have been forced to retrieve their belongings during business hours, all the while trying to find other places to call home. Some tenants PIX News spoke with said they are being housed at a nearby hotel for two days while the building's owners foot the bill.

Source: <http://www.wpix.com/news/wpix-apartment-evacuated-unsafe,0,1680139.story>

For another story, see item [22](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *March 10, WXXA 23 Albany* – (New York) **Sabotage on the Canal.** Just before 7am Monday, a project coordinator was making his daily check of the Day Peckinpaugh when something caught his eye - the stern of the ship was down about 2 feet under water. Bellow deck, he discovered valves in the engine room open and water flooding

in. He immediately called for help and together a team of 12 worked, pumping water out to save the ship from sinking. He says he knew it was sabotage - the only way to get below deck is with a set of keys. State Police immediately focused on a 35-year-old employee that was recently let go. When they found a stolen Education Department vehicle just a block from his Waterford home, they questioned him and they say the man confessed. "It's a piece of history. We need to save that," says a project team member. Thanks to a quick thinking crew of rescuers, the 260 foot long ship is still afloat. The ship is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Source: <http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/Sabotage-on-the-Canal/eyboYZTgzE-t4Ibam58zJQ.csp>

57. *March 10, National Parks Traveler* – (Massachusetts) **Recent storms took a toll on Cape Cod National Seashore beaches.** While recent storms pounded Mid-Atlantic states and New England with heavy snows, they also pummeled the beaches of Cape Cod National Seashore. For instance, he says at Nauset Light Beach in Eastham and Marconi Beach in Wellfleet the stairs to the beaches are gone. Bluffs at these beaches are very steep and visitors are being restricted from these areas. Sand slumping off in large sections also is a serious safety issue for visitors standing at the edge or attempting to climb down the front of the dune, the Seashore notes. At Coast Guard Beach in Eastham there is a significant drop from the edge of the walkway to the beach. The bike bridge that crosses Nauset Marsh near Coast Guard beach in Eastham also was inundated. It has been closed because it is structurally unsafe. Damages to these facilities are estimated at \$150,000 to \$500,000. "Wind-generated high waves, compounded by astronomical high tides over several days have caused repetitive and cumulative damage to these important visitor access facilities," the superintendent said. "We're asking visitors to stay back from the edges of bluffs because they are very unstable and could collapse at any time without warning." The time-frame for replacing the beach access stairs is anticipated to be 2-1/2 months.

Source: <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2010/03/recent-storms-took-toll-cape-cod-national-seashore-beaches5498>

For another story, see item [31](#)

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Dams Sector

58. *March 10, WTRF 7 Wheeling* – (Pennsylvania; Ohio; West Virginia) **Army Corps of Engineers lower reservoirs.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a National Weather Service expert in Pittsburgh say with a rain storm moving into Pittsburgh and the Ohio Valley this weekend, the chance for flooding increases. If Ohio River levels rise in Pittsburgh, the rising water levels could travel down to the Ohio Valley. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is taking the necessary measures to prevent flooding from happening. Sixteen reservoirs within the upper Ohio Valley river basin have 100 percent storage capacity and are ready to hold large amounts of rainwater once the storm begins, but if the chance for flooding increases, residents in the Ohio Valley will

be notified so they can take the extra precautions necessary. “If we think we’ll go above flood stage we’ll issue a flood watch letting people know potential for flooding. If more certain we know more about flooding, we’ll issue a warning that rainfall will tailor crest based on how much rain falls and how fast the snow melts,” said a spokesperson of the National Weather Service. The Army Corps of Engineers says they cannot foresee reservoirs overflowing though once rain begins to fall.

Source: <http://www.wtrf.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=76453>

59. *March 9, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (Maryland) **Commissioners deadlocked on Devil’s Backbone dam repairs.** The Washington County Commissioners deadlocked Tuesday on whether to proceed with repairs to an aging county dam. After hearing that repairing the dam in Devil’s Backbone Park would probably be less expensive than removing or partially breaching it, several commissioners said they were ready to move ahead with the repair option to comply with a state order. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has deemed the 100-year-old, county-owned dam to be unsafe and has issued the county a notice of violation and an order to correct the problem within a “very aggressive schedule,” the county Public Works director said. Other commissioners criticized the MDE for ordering action without providing any funding and expressed reluctance to commit to any action as long as the county was footing the bill. When the commissioners discussed the dam at their February 16 meeting, they agreed to have a consultant study three options — repairing, removing or partially breaching the dam — and report on the costs and other considerations for each option. As part of that study, divers performed an underwater inspection Thursday and confirmed that water was seeping through holes in the face of the dam. In addition, the divers found a “tremendous amount” of silt behind the dam and found that silt was washing through the dam, he said. The commissioners did not vote on whether to call off the study.

Source: http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=241226&format=html&autoreload=true

60. *March 9, Monroe News-Star* – (Louisiana) **Officials: Levee system should be protected.** The Monroe, Louisiana, mayor and a regional economic developer said the potential decertification of the Tensas Basin Levee system that protects much of northeastern Louisiana would have disastrous economic consequences. They were among those who attended a U.S. Representative’s town meeting Tuesday evening that brought together local and federal flood control officials to answer questions about the process. “When you talk about economic development there is nothing more important than protecting our levee system,” the mayor said. If the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers decertifies the Tensas Levee system, it will lose its Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accreditation, which would require virtually every homeowner and business with a federally backed mortgage to buy expensive flood insurance. Corps officials have said the system is likely to receive an unacceptable rating because of issues such as bank cave-ins and inadequate levee height in some segments. If that happens, FEMA would not accredit the system. The Tensas Basin Levee District executive director and the Tensas board president both said the federal government

must help to bring the levee system up to meet the new standards.

Source: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20100309/NEWS01/3090325>

61. *March 9, Atlanta Journal Constitution* – (Georgia) **Another crack on Berkeley Lake dam.** Engineers have discovered another crack on the Berkeley Lake dam, in Georgia, one that is four times the size of the original slope failure. Officials found the 120-plus-foot-long tension crack Monday on the dam at North Berkeley Lake Road. It is higher and to the right of the original 32-foot-long crack, which was discovered after September's deluge, a city engineer said. He believes the crack came about because the internal drain system sustained damage in the flood, and it is unable to collect water and pipe it away. The damage does not change the city-estimated \$4 million in repairs, he said, but he is hopeful the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will pick up more of the cost. For weeks, Berkeley Lake and FEMA have locked horns over the extent of damage caused by the 500-year storm. Recently, FEMA agreed to chip in more on repairs, amounting to about \$1 million. The city said that's still not enough and is expected to appeal FEMA's decision. City and state officials maintain the damage does not pose a threat to the dozen or so homes downstream of the dam. Still, at the urging of the Safe Dams Program, the city in September lowered the 88-acre lake 10 feet to reduce pressure on the dam. The city is not being asked to reduce the lake further, the engineer said.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/gwinnett/another-crack-on-berkeley-358084.html>

62. *March 9, Seacoastonline.com* – (New Hampshire) **Board pushes for dam answers.** Selectmen are pushing the state to conduct a more thorough study before making a final decision on whether to replace or remove the deteriorating Taylor River Dam in New Hampshire. They said they feared removing the dam may end up polluting Hampton Harbor. The pesticides — which came from agricultural practices — have accumulated in the sediment behind the dam since the dam was built. The town manager told state officials this week that the town is concerned about pesticides that have collected in the sediment on the other side of the dam. If the state removes the dam they are worried that sediment could make its way into the harbor. Even if the dam is replaced, he still expressed concerns about the contaminated sediment, saying there is always the danger that the structure could fail in the future. The state plans to bring forward its final decision on the dam by the beginning of April.

Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20100309-NEWS-3090344>

63. *March 9, Wahpeton Daily News* – (North Dakota; Minnesota) **Breckenridge declares state of emergency.** After a public flood meeting Monday, the Breckenridge City Council convened in a special session to approve a resolution to declare a state of emergency. Because the flooding potential is high, they also approved two requests for assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — advance measures and flood emergency assistance. During the flood meeting, a Wilkin County engineer informed more than 50 people that water may begin to flow next week with the predicted weather. He said there is no full-fledged crest prediction yet and there will not be until the Red River hits flood stage. Currently, White Rock Dam is releasing 1,100 cubic feet per second and Orwell Dam by Fergus Falls, Minnesota, is releasing 900 cfs, said the

engineer. “Just for comparison, Orwell last year was at 2,000 cfs due to the amount [of water] coming through,” he added. The diversion outside Breckenridge carries 65 percent of the water coming from the Otter Tail River, preventing at least 1 foot from entering Breckenridge. The diversion was built for an 18 foot, 3,300 cfs capacity. Last year, it held 20 feet and 5,000 cfs. He said the county has 130,000 sandbags stockpiled in a county shop across from Cenex in Breckenridge ready to be filled when needed. He wants to hold off as long as possible, but said they may start filling next Monday. Since permanent diking is not completed on the north side of Breckenridge yet, both the north and south sides of the Otter Tail River will have temporary dikes built and along the Red River. Finally, the city has been working to get all pump stations in working order. Many electrical panels and motors had to be completely reworked. The Public Works director said some will be finished March 9, others are will not be completed until March 22.

Source:

<http://www.wahpetondailynews.com/articles/2010/03/09/news/doc4b96b3e0c1483861759512.txt>

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