



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 March 2010

### Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- An American charged in Yemen with being a member of Al Qaeda had worked at nuclear power plants in the U.S., a spokesman for a group of plants in New Jersey said on March 11. (See item [8](#))
- Just weeks after dealing with record-setting snowfall, residents in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New Jersey are preparing for the possibility of flooding on March 11. A large portion of Pennsylvania and all of New Jersey is under a flood watch. Parts of Ohio, along the Ohio River, are under a watch, too, with the threat of heavy rain combining with melting snowpack. (See item [48](#))

### Fast Jump Menu

#### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

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

#### SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

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

#### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

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

#### FEDERAL and STATE

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

### Energy Sector

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

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

1. *March 12, Insurance Journal* – (West Virginia) **West Virginia mine foreman pleads guilty to faking safety records.** A foreman accused of faking a safety inspection report at a Patriot Coal Corp. mine pleaded guilty Wednesday to one count of making false statements and certifications under federal mine safety laws. The man declined to

elaborate on his plea, which was accepted by a U.S. Magistrate. He reserved the right to make a statement when he is sentenced. He faces up to five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. The felony charge stems from a January 24 inspection the man claimed to have made on a sealed area at the Federal No. 2 Mine near Fairview, West Virginia. Though he recorded numbers for methane and oxygen levels, he later acknowledged he did not make the inspection.

Source: <http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/southeast/2010/03/12/108099.htm>

2. *March 12, Waterbury Republican-American* – (Connecticut) **Crews cleaning up Conn. train derailment.** Connecticut environmental officials have returned to the site of a freight train derailment in Windham to oversee the removal of four cars carrying ethanol that went off the tracks. None of the tank cars was punctured in Thursday morning's accident, and no one was injured. Crews working for Providence & Worcester Railroad on Friday are trying to remove three tankers that fell over and put one that remained upright back on the tracks. The train was headed to Providence, Rhode Island, from North Dakota. Officials say 71 cars continued on to Providence. Crews planned to remove the liquid ethanol from the 30,000-gallon tank cars before moving them. The cause of the derailment remains under investigation.

Source: [http://www.rep-am.com/articles/2010/03/12/ap-state-ct/ct\\_conn\\_train\\_derailment.txt](http://www.rep-am.com/articles/2010/03/12/ap-state-ct/ct_conn_train_derailment.txt)

3. *March 12, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Xcel says \$1.5 million system will ease power-plant noise.** Xcel Energy said Thursday that it will install a noise-canceling system by the end of April that should eliminate the high-pitched sound emanating from its new Comanche 3 power plant in Pueblo, Colorado. Steel baffles will be inserted into the bottom half of the unit's smokestack, absorbing and altering the frequencies of a sound that Xcel believes is coming from a pair of fans that generate boiler draft. The system will cost \$1.5 million. The noise is so unbearable that some nearby residents are temporarily relocating to hotels that are out of earshot of the plant. For now, Xcel is eating the cost of the baffling. The company can try to recoup it in a future rate case, which would require Public Utilities Commission approval. Xcel said the 750-megawatt unit is operating at about 60 percent of capacity.

Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci\\_14659708](http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_14659708)

4. *March 12, Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **Vandals damage transformers at Frazer substation.** The Valley County, Montana, Sheriff's Office is searching for vandals who shot at a Frazer electric substation, damaging three transformers that will cost \$105,000 to replace. As part of routine maintenance, employees discovered the damaged transformers March 1. Valley County's sheriff said Thursday that the department has not received one tip or clue to pursue. The NorVal Electric Co-operative transformers were leaking oil. Each costs \$35,000 to replace, plus the cost of labor. Maintenance crews spotted the damage before the transformers shorted out, which would have wiped out power for a large area of eastern Montana. The co-op is looking for replacement parts. Meanwhile, the company will try to reroute electricity, which strains other parts of the electrical system, or bring in portable transformers.

Source:

<http://www.greatfallsbtribune.com/article/20100312/NEWS01/3120309/Vandals-damage-transformers-at-Frazer-substation>

5. *March 12, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **ND oil refinery plans maintenance shutdown.** North Dakota's only oil refinery is planning a month-long shutdown for maintenance and upgrades beginning next month. Officials say the planned \$125 million project at Tesoro Petroleum Corp.'s Mandan refinery is the most extensive overhaul at the facility since 2003. The refinery was built in 1954 and produces gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, propane, butane, and residual fuel. It also has an ethanol blending facility. Tesoro acquired the refinery from BP in 2001. The company says the planned overhaul will bring to \$250 million the amount it has spent on environmental and production upgrades at the refinery.

Source:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D9ED4MG02.html>

6. *March 12, WNWO 24 Toledo* – (Ohio) **Fuel spill closes Ohio Turnpike - Airport Hwy. exit.** Authorities have closed the Ohio Turnpike exit ramp to Airport Hwy. after a fuel-tanker spill. Emergency crews are on the scene. Reports indicate a commercial tanker carrying fuel has spilled a large amount of its load onto the roadway. HazMat crews have been called to the scene to assist with clean-up. Troopers at the scene say the Ohio Turnpike exit/on-ramp is closed until further notice.

Source: <http://www.toledoonthemove.com/news/story.aspx?id=428862>

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

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

7. *March 11, KAAL 6 Austin* – (Minnesota) **1 hurt in chemical spill in New Brighton.** One person suffered minor injuries after a chemical spill Thursday afternoon in New Brighton, Minnesota. Police say it happened on the second floor of Transoma medical supply company. Police say employees were moved to the first floor while haz-mat teams monitored the situation. It is not clear what the chemical was and how much of it spilled.

Source: <http://kaaltv.com/article/stories/S1461383.shtml?cat=10728>

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

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

8. *March 12, Foxnews.com* – (International) **Al Qaeda suspect worked at U.S. nuclear plants.** An American charged in Yemen with being a member of Al Qaeda had worked at nuclear power plants in the U.S., a spokesman for a group of plants in New Jersey said Thursday. But a state official said the man did not breach security there. The 26-year-old natural-born U.S. citizen was arrested in Yemen earlier this month and is accused of killing a guard in an attempt to break out of a hospital. The FBI, the State Department, and other authorities said they were trying to gather information about the

suspect. But the allegations appeared to illustrate a phenomenon U.S. intelligence officials have warned about: American Muslims becoming radicalized and joining terrorist movements overseas. The suspect was identified by Yemeni officials as a Somali-American. The suspect moved to Yemen about two years ago, supposedly to learn Arabic and study Islam, a former neighbor said. Before that, the suspect worked for several contractors at three nuclear power plants in New Jersey from 2002 to 2008, a PSE&G Nuclear spokesman said. The suspect carried supplies and did maintenance work at the plants on Artificial Island in Lower Alloways Creek, and worked at other plants in the region as well.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,589022,00.html>

9. *March 12, Illinois Daily Journal* – (Illinois) **Exelon to pay \$1.175 million for nuclear water spills.** Exelon Generation Corp. will pay \$1.176 million in penalties and funding for environmental projects to settle lawsuits over spilling of mildly radioactive power plant water into groundwater at its Braidwood, Dresden, and Byron nuclear power plants. The Illinois attorney general announced the settlements Thursday. The suits came after it was discovered that the discharge systems in the three plants were leaking tritium-contaminated water into groundwater. At Braidwood, that discharge into the Kankakee River at the plant's "blowdown line" near Wilmington is approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. However, in 2005 it was found that the tritiated water had spilled into groundwater. Well testing in the village of Godley, adjacent to the plant, found that water in a few of the 200 wells contained tritium, which state and federal agencies, said did not pose a health or safety threat.

Source: <http://daily-journal.com/archives/dj/display.php?id=453413>

10. *March 12, Foxnews.com* – (International) **Al Qaeda suspect worked at U.S. nuclear plants.** An American charged in Yemen with being a member of Al Qaeda had worked at nuclear power plants in the U.S., a spokesman for a group of plants in New Jersey said Thursday. But a state official said the man did not breach security there. The 26-year-old natural-born U.S. citizen was arrested in Yemen earlier this month and is accused of killing a guard in an attempt to break out of a hospital. The FBI, the State Department, and other authorities said they were trying to gather information about the suspect. But the allegations appeared to illustrate a phenomenon U.S. intelligence officials have warned about: American Muslims becoming radicalized and joining terrorist movements overseas. The suspect was identified by Yemeni officials as a Somali-American. The suspect moved to Yemen about two years ago, supposedly to learn Arabic and study Islam, a former neighbor said. Before that, the suspect worked for several contractors at three nuclear power plants in New Jersey from 2002 to 2008, a PSE&G Nuclear spokesman said. The suspect carried supplies and did maintenance work at the plants on Artificial Island in Lower Alloways Creek, and worked at other plants in the region as well.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,589022,00.html>

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

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

11. *March 12, Binghamton Star-Gazette* – (New York) **Two Waverly teens charged in fire at Rynone plant.** Two Waverly, NY teens face charges of fifth-degree arson following a fire in a box trailer on Sunday at Rynone Manufacturing. The fire occurred just before 5 p.m. The teens allegedly set fire to one box trailer that was destroyed by the blaze and a second box trailer was damaged, according to a press release today from Waverly village police. Damage was estimated at \$6,000, police said. The teens, a 16-year-old and a 14-year-old, were not named in the release. The 16-year-old was issued an appearance ticket for Waverly Village Court. The 14-year-old and a parent were issued an appearance ticket for the Tioga County Probation Department, police said. Another arrest is pending, police said.

Source:

<http://www.stargazette.com/article/20100312/NEWS01/100312024/Two+Waverly+teens+charged+in+fire+at+Rynone+plant>

12. *March 11, Consumer Affairs* – (National) **American Prospector SUV tires recalled.** American Car Care Center has notified federal regulators about a noncompliance in certain American Prospector SUV tires, size 245/70R17, produced between November 15 and November 21, 2009. These tires fail to conform to the requirements of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 139, “New Pneumatic Radial Tires for Light Vehicles.” At various mileages, the subject tires may develop and exhibit tread chunking or cracking in the tread shoulder area. Tread chunks may separate from the tire casing resulting in body damage to the vehicle or the driver may lose control resulting in a crash. ACCC will notify owners and replace the tires free of charge. The safety recall is expected to begin on or about March 11, 2010.

Source:

[http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/american\\_prospector\\_tires.html](http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/american_prospector_tires.html)

13. *March 11, Fire Fighting News* – (California) **Four-alarm fire burns at Santa Clara plant.** On Wednesday, March 10, 2010, units of the City of Santa Clara Fire Department responded to ECS Refining, a recycler of electronic waste. Within a matter of minutes a massive column of black smoke had built above the facility and could be seen from miles away as fire consumed electronic scrap piled high on pallets within the company’s yard. Authorities ordered workers and area residents to shelter in place due to the toxicity of the smoke generated by the burning materials. The City of Santa Clara Fire Department Battalion Chief immediately called for additional resources leading to the dispatch of units from the San Jose Fire Department as well as members of the Santa Clara County Overhead Team to assist with fire suppression operations. The fire continued to smolder hours after the initial call as firefighters used two front loaders to break down the recyclables during an extensive overhaul operation. This was the third fire in as many years at ECS Refining, with the origin of all three fires remaining unknown. There were no reported injuries during this four-alarm fire.

Source: <http://www.firefightingnews.com/article-us.cfm?articleID=77021>

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

14. *March 12, The Register* – (National) **Elon Musk’s Falcon 9 suffers rocketus interruptus in pad test.** The Falcon 9 rocket made by SpaceX has suffered a test-firing failure on the pad in Florida. Flames and black smoke belched briefly from the bottom of the rocket as the test commenced earlier this week at Launch Complex 40 on Cape Canaveral, but SpaceX says that in fact the engines never ignited. Rather, an automatic abort of the test was triggered by a failure in the starter system just two seconds before the short test firing was set to begin. The fire and smoke beneath the Falcon 9 resulted from automatic purging of un-burnt fuel and oxidizer. According to a SpaceX statement: “Tanks pressed nominally and we passed all Terminal count, flight software, and ground software abort checks right down to T-2 seconds. We encountered a problem with the spin start system and aborted nominally. As part of the abort, we close the pre-valves to isolate the engines from the propellant tank and purge the residual propellants. The brief flames seen are normal burn off of residual LOX [liquid oxygen] and kerosene ... no damage occurred to the vehicle.” The kerosene-fuelled Falcon 9 - so named because it uses 9 of SpaceX’s proprietary Merlin rocket engines - is intended initially to lift substantial payloads into Earth orbit. The firm intends to send its Dragon capsule into space using Falcon 9s, both to resupply the International Space Station (ISS) under NASA commercial contracts and, perhaps, for other tasks. In time, SpaceX hopes to certify the Falcon 9 and the Dragon for manned flight, and so compete also for the task of carrying crews to and from the station. Following the planned retirement of the US space shuttle fleet this year, the only way for astronauts and cosmonauts to get into space will be aboard Russian Soyuz craft.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/12/falcon\\_9\\_pad\\_test\\_abort/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/12/falcon_9_pad_test_abort/)
15. *March 12, Naval Open Source Intelligence* – (International) **Aegis weapon system tested during international multiple ship demonstration.** Lockheed Martin, in support of the U.S. Navy, successfully completed Combat System Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) for Aegis Combat Systems installed aboard U.S. and Spanish navy ships. The last time these two nations participated in a combined CSSQT was in 2007. The latest event was conducted at sea last week in the vicinity of Pt. Mugu, CA and involved U.S. Navy destroyers USS Dewey (DDG 105) and USS Wayne E Meyer (DDG 108) along with the Spanish Navy frigate Alvaro de Bazan (F-101). During the CSSQT, the ships’ Aegis Combat Systems were evaluated for combat-readiness through comprehensive surface, subsurface and anti-air warfare exercises, including manned raids and electronic attack scenarios, as well as thorough testing of the systems’ tactical data link and air defense capabilities.  
Source: [http://nosint.blogspot.com/2010/03/aegis-weapon-system-tested-during.html?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/fqzx+\(Naval+Open+Source+INTelligence\)](http://nosint.blogspot.com/2010/03/aegis-weapon-system-tested-during.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed:+blogspot/fqzx+(Naval+Open+Source+INTelligence))
16. *March 11, Aviation Week* – (National) **Boeing to modify F-16s to be targets.** Boeing has won the U.S. competition to convert surplus Lockheed Martin F-16 fighters into drones to replace the QF-4s now used as full-scale aerial targets for weapon-system testing. The company has received a \$69.7 million Air Force contract for the first phase



of the QF-16 program, covering engineering, manufacturing and development. Most of that will occur in St. Louis while flight testing and production will occur at Boeing's plant in Cecil Field, Florida. With follow-on contracts, eventually as many as 126 QF-16s should be delivered, beginning in mid-2014. Assuming 16-20 QF-4 kills a year, the inventory of target drones is expected to be depleted in Fiscal 2015, and initial operational capability with a fleet of 18 QF-16s is planned for the third quarter of that year. In addition to replacing the QF-4s, the QF-16 will be a higher-performing aircraft representative of fourth-generation targets.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story\\_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/awx/2010/03/09/awx\\_03\\_09\\_2010\\_p0-210518.xml](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=defense&id=news/awx/2010/03/09/awx_03_09_2010_p0-210518.xml)

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

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

17. *March 12, SC Magazine* – (International) **Employee of HSBC steals information of 24,000 customers.** HSBC has been hit by an insider threat with reports that information of 24,000 HSBC customers with Swiss accounts have been stolen. HSBC has said that a former IT employee of HSBC's Swiss subsidiary Private Bank (Suisse) SA, identified by French authorities as Herve Falciani, obtained the information between late 2006 and early 2007. The accounts, held by individuals worldwide, were all opened before October 2006 and some 9,000 have since been closed, according to the Associated Press. The bank said it has contacted the affected customers and does not believe the data has or will allow any unauthorized person to access the affected accounts. The stolen information only affects accounts in Switzerland with the exception of its former subsidiary HSBC Guyerzeller Bank.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/employee-of-hsbc-steals-information-of-24000-customers/article/165579/>

18. *March 12, eSecurity Planet* – (Ohio) **Cyber attack dents body shop.** A recent cyber attack on an auto body shop resulted in the theft of more than \$200,000. "The latest victim is Clarke Collision Center, an auto body shop in Hudson, Ohio," writes a researcher on Security's Brian Krebs. "According to [the] owner of Kintz Tech, a local security consulting company that responded to the incident, on Feb. 23 an employee of the victim firm noticed something strange when she went to log in to the company's online bank accounts: The site said the bank's system was down for maintenance." "The page she was sent to even included a 1-800 number supposedly for the bank's customer service line," the researcher writes. "[The owner] said the woman called that number, but quickly found that it was not in service. When the employee looked up the real customer service number for the bank and called to complain about the suspicious activity, she learned that there had just been a large number of wires and money transfers out of the company's accounts to individuals in the United States and overseas, [the owner] said."

Source: <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/headlines/article.php/3870251/article.htm>

19. *March 11, Coastal Monmouth Bureau* – (New Jersey) **Robber threatened to use grenade at Manasquan bank.** Police are asking for the public's help in locating an armed man who threatened to blow up a bank branch earlier today and made off with an undisclosed amount of money, putting one area school into lockdown and forcing two others to take emergency precautions, authorities said. The robber, who used a southern accent, is described as an overweight, white man between 50 and 60 years old and about 5 feet 7 inches tall. The man entered the Two River Community Bank at 240 Parker Ave., near Route 71, around 2:20p.m., the administrative assistant Monmouth County prosecutor said. He brandished what appeared to be a small caliber revolver. He also showed two other items which appeared to be hand grenades, one of which was around his neck, the assistant prosecutor said. The man told the teller that one of the items was hooked up to a timer and would blow up in a number of minutes if he was not given all the money in the bank, the assistant prosecutor said. The man was given an undisclosed amount of money. The incident caused the lockdown of the nearby Sea Girt elementary school. Manasquan Elementary School, while not on lockdown, did retain pupils until they could be picked up by parents. Manasquan High School canceled all ongoing after school activities and also held children until parents arrived. Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100311/NEWS/100311081/Robber-threatened-to-use-grenade-at-Manasquan-bank>
20. *March 11, Reuters* – (New York) **U.S. regulators seize small New York bank.** Regulators on March 11 seized a small New York bank, bringing the number of U.S. bank failures this year to 27. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp said LibertyPointe Bank, of New York City, was closed by state regulators. Valley National Bank, of Wayne, N.J., is assuming all of LibertyPointe's deposits. LibertyPointe had three branches and \$209.7 million in total assets. The FDIC did not give a reason why it failed. It said the closure is expected to cost the FDIC's insurance fund \$24.8 million. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1122316920100312>

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

## **Transportation Sector**

21. *March 12, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Guard to be disciplined for Newark airport breach.** Officials will discipline the Newark Liberty International Airport guard who briefly left his post, triggering a security breach that delayed flights worldwide. The Transportation Security Administration, saying it's a private personnel matter, would not name the guard or say what would happen to him. However, the TSA says he'll return to work. The guard was placed on paid administrative leave two days after a Rutgers University graduate student used the guard's absence to duck under a barrier to say goodbye to his girlfriend on January 3. The breach closed Terminal C for six hours and caused flight delays around the world. The student pleaded guilty to defiant trespass on Tuesday. The guard's leave ends on Saturday. Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20100312/NEWS03/100312032/Guard-to-be-disciplined-for-Newark-airport-breach>



22. *March 12, Billings Gazette* – (Montana) **TSA official criticized over passenger treatment at Gallatin Field.** The top Transportation Security Administration official in Montana is being criticized for how passengers at Gallatin Field near Bozeman were treated after a man inadvertently got a gun through security late last year. The official attended a regular meeting of the Airport Authority Board on Thursday to answer accusations that passengers had been treated poorly since the Dec. 13 security breach. A board member told the official that the “heavy-headed” demeanor of screeners “leaves a bad taste in your mouth.” Other board members said TSA employees at the airport are less courteous than at other airports. The official said he takes customer service seriously and was “very pleased to get the feedback.” The TSA said in January that screeners accidentally allowed a passenger with a firearm in his carryon luggage through security about a month before. The unidentified man realized he had the gun when he was in the boarding area and turned himself in.  
Source: [http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article\\_f3d3a194-2dd5-11df-8f90-001cc4c03286.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/article_f3d3a194-2dd5-11df-8f90-001cc4c03286.html)
23. *March 12, Corvallis Gazette-Times* – (Oregon) **Landslide will force Highway 18 detour.** Traffic on Highway 18 will be detoured as early as Monday to help motorists avoid road damage caused by an adjacent landslide. Whether the detour begins Monday will depend on weather conditions, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation. When it does, westbound motorists will be shifted into an eastbound lane and eastbound traffic will be restricted to a single lane of travel through the damage area. Signs will mark the area and roadway stripes will indicate the lane changes. The roadway is damaged as the result of a landslide that begins about 280 feet uphill from the roadway. ODOT has designated funding for a study of the slide and road damage and will develop a long-range plan as soon as the study is complete. “It doesn’t make good budget sense to spend money to grind and repave the damaged section when the forces that created the damage go unaddressed,” said the ODOT District 4 Manager. “At least by shifting traffic, we’re making travel safer for the short term.”  
Source: [http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/article\\_85f1bb86-2db0-11df-a900-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/article_85f1bb86-2db0-11df-a900-001cc4c002e0.html)
24. *March 11, WTOP 1500 Washington* – (District of Columbia) **Red Line train derails inside Metro rail yard.** Human error may be to blame after a Red Line train carrying two train operators derailed Wednesday, Metro officials say. The front two wheels of a four-car train jumped the tracks inside the Brentwood Rail Yard around 12:20 p.m. Wednesday, Metro says. No one was injured. The preliminary investigation reveals the train - which was repositioning in the rail yard - ran a red signal at an interlocking. Metro officials say human error is a factor in the incident. There was no disruption to train service for customers. Two train operators were onboard at the time. One was in the cab of the first car and the other was in the cab of the last car. Neither was injured. After the derailment, the train operators and a track worker on the scene were taken in for a standard post-incident analysis. Metro has notified the Tri-State Oversight Committee about the derailment.  
Source: <http://wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1910285>

25. *March 11, Associated Press* – (National) **2 airlines hit birds, return safely to airports.** Two jetliners crossed paths with flocks of Canada geese shortly after taking off from airports on consecutive days in New York and New Jersey, and the collisions with the large birds forced the pilots to make emergency landings. No one was hurt. A US Airways jet headed to Charlotte, N.C., with 124 passengers and a crew of five struck several geese Thursday morning about two minutes after leaving Rochester's airport in upstate New York. The pilot reported a problem with one of the two engines, and the plane turned back, officials said. Passengers said they heard a loud noise followed by the smell of burning. The Airbus A319 landed safely at 8:30 a.m. The plane underwent repairs, the flight was canceled and passengers were shifted to other flights. Canada geese also struck a Continental Airlines jet with 301 people aboard as it took off from Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey at about 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. The Boeing 777, bound for Hong Kong, landed safely and did not appear to be damaged, the airline said. Most of the passengers were rebooked on a flight Thursday morning to Hong Kong.

Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700015900/2-airlines-hit-birds-return-safely-to-airports.html>

For more stories, see items [2](#) and [6](#)

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

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

26. *March 11, WZVN 7 Fort Myers* – (Florida) **Teens charged with making mailbox bombs.** The Charlotte County, Florida, sheriff's office arrested two teenagers for allegedly putting two homemade bombs in a mailbox. Deputies responded to Fallkirk Avenue when a neighbor reported finding two homemade explosive devices at the base of a neighbor's mailbox. Deputies say a 14 year-old and 15 year-old used chemicals to create the homemade explosive devices in two plastic bottles. Both devices were put in the mailbox, deputies said, but the first did not explode. The second device, which included BBs as shrapnel, exploded in the mailbox, reports said. The mailbox was damaged and BBs were scattered on the street.

Source: <http://www.abc-7.com/Global/story.asp?S=12126295>

27. *March 11, Fox 25 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Envelope with white powder causes evacuation in South Boston.** The Boston Fire Department investigated a situation March 11 in South Boston where a mysterious envelope that contained white powder is making people feel ill. According to authorities, at around 11:30 A.M. a woman on the fifth floor of the office building at 27 Wormwood St. received an envelope that contained a suspicious substance. The woman reportedly began to feel ill and itchy. The incident was declared a level 3 Haz-mat situation, which means the substance is considered extremely hazardous. The fourth, fifth and sixth floors of the office building were evacuated as a precaution.

Source: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/envelope-with-white-powder-causes-evacuation-in-south-boston-20100311>

## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

28. *March 11, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (New York) **New York firm recalls various chicken products produced without inspection.** N.Y. Gourmet Salads, Inc., a Brooklyn, New York establishment, is recalling an undetermined amount of various chicken products because the products were produced without the benefit of federal inspection, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced on March 11. The chicken products were produced intermittently between November 5, 2009, and March 10, 2010, and were distributed to retail establishments in the New York City metropolitan area. Each chicken product bears the establishment number "P-34440" inside the USDA mark of inspection. Consumers may have purchased these chicken products at delicatessen counters at supermarkets. The problem was discovered by FSIS and is part of an ongoing investigation. FSIS has received no reports of illness due to consumption of these products.

Source:

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_018\\_2010\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_018_2010_Release/index.asp)

29. *March 10, Hickory Daily Record* – (North Carolina) **Former Domino's worker pleads guilty to food tampering.** The man who appeared in a YouTube video in April putting cheese up his nose, then on a pizza and passing gas on a sandwich apologized to Domino's Pizza and his former boss in Superior Court Tuesday. The 33-year-old man made the video along with fellow former Domino's female employee while the two were employed at the Conover, North Carolina, Domino's location. Both were arrested and charged with felony adulterating food. The man pleaded guilty to the charge while admitting no wrongdoing in what is known as an Alford plea. He admits that the evidence against him is strong enough to produce a guilty plea but denies that the food he ruined was ever sold or served to customers. He was given a six-month suspended sentence, 24 months of supervised supervision and ordered to have no contact with his former colleague or Domino's. The Conover Domino's location went out of business in the wake of the negative publicity following the discovery of the video that became an Internet sensation. The restaurant closed its doors in September.

Source: <http://www2.hickoryrecord.com/content/2010/mar/10/former-dominos-worker-pleads-guilty-food-tampering/news/>

## **Water Sector**

30. *March 11, Sunbury Daily Item* – (Pennsylvania) **DEP: Penns Creek must fix sewage plant.** A Snyder County, Pennsylvania, village is facing a \$1.5 million project to fix its sewage treatment plant. The Penns Creek Municipal Authority was mandated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) last summer to fix a problem that is causing intermittent excesses in carbonaceous biological oxygen demand and total

suspended solids — pollutant organic materials that are released into water. The current lagoon wastewater system will need to be replaced by a new single sludge treatment facility. The deadline to comply with DEP regulations is December 30, 2011. Snyder County commissioners on Tuesday unanimously agreed that the county would be the applicant for a \$500,000 competitive grant through the state's Community Development and Block Grant program. An application will be submitted in May. The Penns Creek project has been approved to receive \$50,000 through the 2010 CDBG program.

Source: [http://www.dailyitem.com/0100\\_news/local\\_story\\_070001857.html](http://www.dailyitem.com/0100_news/local_story_070001857.html)

31. *March 10, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Roads restricted around Mesa water main break.** Mesa, Arizona, officials say a water main break Wednesday has forced a lane restriction on McLellan Road from Upland Circle to Beverly Street. McLellan is restricted to one lane eastbound. The Mesa Water Resources Department is currently working to discover and repair the break and hopes to restore water service by Wednesday afternoon. Until repairs are complete, detours are in effect and drivers are advised to use alternate routes.

Source: <http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=12116261>

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

## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

32. *March 12, Forum of Fargo-Moorhead* – (North Dakota) **Hospitals, care centers make evacuation plans.** Hospitals and nursing homes in Fargo-Moorhead, North Dakota, are well along in drafting contingency plans in the event major flooding strikes again this spring. Administrators said they are better prepared than last year in the event river levels force evacuations, as happened last year. In fact, because of the longer lead time and experience gained from last year, some administrators believe it is less likely that evacuations would become necessary this year. Protection against floodwaters is not the only concern at health centers, which need water, sanitation and electrical services to serve patients and residents. "I think there's greater confidence we aren't going anywhere," said a vice president at Innovis Health, which last year did not have to evacuate. "We have the added benefit of time and experience."

Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/271834/>

33. *March 11, WMAQ 5 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Two dozen become ill from mysterious fumes.** At least two dozen people became sick and complained of fumes at two Chicago buildings, but officials can not determine what was wrong. The mystery began at about 10 a.m. March 11, when staffers at the Alivio Medical Center in Pilsen began complaining of light-headedness and nausea. That building was evacuated and some of those who said they were sick were taken to another facility. Once there, even more people said they were feeling sick. Hazardous Materials crews and fire investigators combed both buildings, even calling in the gas company and the city's environmental department, but no one could find anything that could have caused the illnesses. The facility was reopened at about noon after being aired out and getting the all-clear from

officials. The Alivio Medical Center employs about 70 people and sees as many as 125 patients every day.

Source: <http://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local-beat/pilsen-hazmat-87401592.html>

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

## **Government Facilities Sector**

34. *March 12, KXXV 25 Waco* – (Texas) **Brush fire on Fort Hood contained.** Fire units responded to the scene of a brush fire on Fort Hood. About 400 acres have been burned and the fire is contained. Officials say outside agencies were needed to help out fighting the fire, with ten pieces of equipment being brought to the scene through the night. The fire broke out around Training Area 41. It generated a lot of smoke and glow from the fire was visible for miles, including at housing areas on post. No structures were ever threatened.

Source: <http://www.kxxv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12129881>

35. *March 12, Spero News* – (Michigan) **Phishing attack at University of Michigan.** The University of Michigan has become the target of a new type of sophisticated and malicious email attack on university email accounts. According to a press release from the Ann Arbor-based institution, some UM email users have twice received a message during this academic year that includes a logo associated with a real, albeit former, university organization. Known as phishing, the email attack is utilized by those seeking to gather personal information from users. The university advised users to a website in its system to see an updated list of phishing messages received by employees. “This message attracted responses from at least 30 users and possibly others we don’t know about. We contacted those we could identify to alert them it was a scam,” says one of the university’s user advocates. “Not everyone who responded gave away their real password.” Besides using the old U-M Information Technology Central Services logo, this e-mail also employed a convincing re-direction: any user who did click the link was directed to an exact duplication of U-M’s authentication page. After entering a username and password — which was captured — the user was then redirected to U-M’s real page, as though the information had perhaps been mistyped.

Source:

<http://www.speroforum.com/site/article.asp?id=28897&t=Phishing+attack+at+University+of+Michigan>

36. *March 12, Sheboygan Press* – (Wisconsin) **Student arrested following bomb threat at STRIVE school.** A Sheboygan, Wisconsin, high school was evacuated and a 16-year-old student arrested March 11 after a phoned-in bomb threat, according to the Sheboygan Police Department. A police spokesman said police were notified at 2:22 p.m. that a bomb threat was made at STRIVE, the Sheboygan Area School District’s alternative high school that is housed with the district’s central offices on Virginia Avenue. A police official said the threat was phoned in by an unknown caller. School officials evacuated the building. A search of the building by school staff revealed no

bomb. Sheboygan police tracked the call and arrested a 16-year-old boy believed to have made it. He was taken into custody in the 1500 block of Indiana Avenue by the department's Street Crimes Unit, which deals primarily with gang-related crimes.

Source:

<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/article/20100312/SHE0101/3120420/1973/SHE0201/Student-arrested-following-bomb-threat-at-STRIVE-school>

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

## **Emergency Services Sector**

37. *March 12, NY1 News* – (New York) **City, WTC workers hammer out details of health care settlement.** In what should end a massive legal battle, the city has hammered out an agreement worth up to \$657 million to settle more than 10,000 lawsuits filed by World Trade Center rescue and response workers. All of the parties to the settlement are expected to discuss it after a March 12 hearing. The tentative deal announced yesterday must still be approved by a judge and 95 percent of the workers. Under the terms of the settlement, the city and other companies represented by the World Trade Center Captive Insurance Company would be liable for a minimum of \$575 million — with more money available if certain conditions are met. Most of the money would come out of a \$1 billion grant from the federal government. The settlement creates a point system for payouts based on the severity of a person's illness. Some workers would get only a few thousand dollars, while others could get more than \$1 million.

Source: [http://www.ny1.com/5-manhattan-news-content/top\\_stories/115090/city--wtc-workers-hammer-out-details-of-health-care-settlement](http://www.ny1.com/5-manhattan-news-content/top_stories/115090/city--wtc-workers-hammer-out-details-of-health-care-settlement)

38. *March 11, WTOP 1500 Washington* – (National) **Police helicopter makes emergency landing in D.C.** A Prince George's County police helicopter made an emergency landing March 11 near a District of Columbia school. A D.C. fire department spokesman said Davis Elementary in southeast Washington was evacuated shortly before the landing Thursday. The school is located in the 4400 block of H Street, Southeast. It was not immediately clear what was wrong with the helicopter.

Source: <http://wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1910346>

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

## **Information Technology Sector**

39. *March 12, The Register* – (International) **SSD tools crack passwords 100 times faster.** Password-cracking tools optimised to work with SSDs have achieved speeds up to 100 times quicker than previously possible. After optimizing its rainbow tables of password hashes to make use of SSDs Swiss security firm Objectif Securite was able to crack 14-digit WinXP passwords with special characters in just 5.3 seconds. Objectif Securite spokesman told Heise Security that the result was 100 times faster than possible with their old 8GB Rainbow Tables for XP hashes. The exercise illustrated



that the speed of hard discs rather than processor speeds was the main bottleneck in password cracking based on password hash lookups. Objectif's test rig featured an ageing Athlon 64 X2 4400+ with an SSD and optimised tables containing 80GB of password hashes. The system supports a brute force attack of 300 billion passwords per second, and is claimed to be 500 times faster than a password cracker from Russian firm Elcomsoft that takes advantages of the number crunching prowess of a graphics GPU from NVIDIA.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/12/password\\_cracking\\_on\\_crack/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/12/password_cracking_on_crack/)

40. *March 12, SC Magazine* – (International) **Anti-virus is becoming obsolete, as full content scanning is needed on web pages.** Basic whitelisting and scanning of websites is not enough as web pages become more content driven. Speaking at a reseller event this week the director of product marketing for web and data security at Websense said that there was a 'need to classify content, as there may be some inappropriate or compromised content' on existing websites. He pointed to iGoogle as an example, as it 'is a mash up of content, and some of it may not be appropriate'. He claimed that while anti-virus is great for leveraging threats and it does have a use, it is not good at detecting exploits. He said: "The days of traditional URL filtering are dead, we care about where users go and they all use the top 500 websites. We care about enforcing capable policy security and the content on pages is dynamic.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/anti-virus-is-becoming-obsolete-as-full-content-scanning-is-needed-on-web-pages/article/165580/>

41. *March 12, Domain Name Wire* – (International) **ICANN board drops bomb on registrars hoping to launching new TLDs.** ICANN's board resolved on March 12 that there will be "strict separation of entities offering registry services and those acting as registrars. No co-ownership will be allowed." However, the board left the possibility open for compromise, stating that if the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) comes up with a compromise, it will consider it. This is bad news for companies such as Demand Media, which owns registrar eNom and hoped to apply for new top level domain names. It's good news for incumbent registries VeriSign, Neustar, and Afilias. The issue of registry/registrar separation has been a hot topic since the start of discussions on new top level domain names. The separation of the .com registry from the registrar business opened the door to massive registrar competition. Without it, it's fair to wonder if behemoths such as Go Daddy, eNom, and Tucows would be around today. But proponents of allowing integration — including some of these very same registrars that benefited to separation the first time around — argue that was a different time with a different set of circumstances.

Source: <http://domainnamewire.com/2010/03/12/icann-board-drops-bomb-on-registrars-hoping-to-launching-new-tlds/>

42. *March 11, The Register* – (International) **Koobface gang refresh botnet to beat takedown.** Command and Control servers associated with the infamous Koobface worms have gone through a complete refresh over the last fortnight. Russian net security firm Kaspersky Lab reckons the change up might be aimed at making takedown efforts by cybercrime fighters more difficult. Koobface spreads via messages

on social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter. The worm and compromised legitimate websites act as proxies for its main command and control servers. Infected machines are contaminated with other forms of malware, in particular scareware (rogue anti-virus), an easy and most profitable mechanism in general for cybercrooks to make money. Over the last two weeks, researchers at Kaspersky have seen Koobface C&C servers shut down or cleaned an average of three times per day. The number of control nodes dropped steadily from 107 on February 25, to as low as 71 on March 8, before doubling to 142 just two days later on March 10. These control systems are important because they orchestrate the operation of zombie, infected drones. In the course of this process the percentage of Koobface C&C servers hosted in the US increased from 48 percent to 52 percent.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/koobface\\_shake\\_up/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/koobface_shake_up/)

43. *March 11, Network World* – (International) **ZeuS botnet code keeps getting better; for criminals.** New capabilities are strengthening the ZeuS botnet, which criminals use to steal financial credentials and execute unauthorized transactions in online banking, automated clearing house (ACH) networks and payroll systems. The latest version of this cybercrime toolkit, which starts at about \$3,000, offers a \$10,000 module that can let attackers completely take control of a compromised PC. Zeus v.1.3.4.x (code changes are always underway by the author and owner, who is believed to be one individual in Eastern Europe) has integrated a powerful remote-control function into the botnet so that the attacker can now “take complete control of the person’s PC,” says the director of threat intelligence at SecureWorks, which released an in-depth report on ZeuS this week. This new ZeuS feature, which was picked up from an older public-domain project from AT&T Bell Labs known as “Virtual Network Computing,” gives ZeuS the kind of remote-control capability that might be found in a legitimate product like GoToMyPC, the director says. SecureWorks calls this a “total presence proxy,” and it’s so useful to criminals, just this one VNC module for ZeuS costs \$10,000.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169738/ZeuS\\_botnet\\_code\\_keeps\\_getting\\_better\\_8230\\_for\\_criminals](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169738/ZeuS_botnet_code_keeps_getting_better_8230_for_criminals)

44. *March 11, The Register* – (International) **One-third of orphaned Zeus botnets find way home.** The takedown of 100 servers used to control Zeus-related botnets may be a short-lived victory, security researchers said after discovering that about a third of the orphaned channels were able to regain connectivity in less than 48 hours. The resurrection of at least 30 command and control channels came after their internet service provider found a new upstream provider to provide connectivity to the outside world, autonomous system records showed on March 11. As a result, some of the rogue customers who used the Troyak ISP to herd huge numbers of infected PCs were able to once again connect to the compromised machines and issue commands. “The problem is that as soon the C&Cs are reachable from the internet again, the cybercriminals can regain the control of their botnet and can safely move the stolen data away from those AS’s to a safer place or to a backup server,” a researcher connected to the Zeus Tracker service told The Register. One example of a severed server that was able to reconnect

was this one. In all, about 100 of the 249 C&C servers Zeus Tracker monitored lost connectivity. Since then, 30 have been able to reconnect. The researcher, who asked not to be identified by name, said he expected more of the malicious servers will reconnect over time.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/zeus\\_botnets\\_resurrected/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/11/zeus_botnets_resurrected/)

45. *March 11, ComputerWorld* – (International) **ICANN president criticized for remarks on DNS security.** The country code subgroup of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers has criticized the ICANN President and CEO for “inflammatory” comments that the domain name system is not as secure as it used to be. While speaking at the Government Advisory Committee meeting on March 9, the CEO said more concerted efforts are needed to protect the DNS because it is under more attacks, is fragile and vulnerable, and “can stop any time.” In the session with the GAC and board members, the CEO addressed DNS abuse cases by some unspecified countries and promised to write to GAC members for more information and advice on DNS in their countries. The chairman of the Country Code Name Supporting Organization (ccNSO) council took issue with the statement to the GAC, terming it “inflammatory” and capable of rolling back the gains made by ccTLD managers and government officials in relation to DNS security.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169638/ICANN\\_president\\_criticized\\_for\\_marks\\_on\\_DNS\\_security](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169638/ICANN_president_criticized_for_marks_on_DNS_security)

### 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>

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

## Communications Sector

46. *March 11, Computer World* – (National) **FCC launches broadband test site for consumers.** The U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has added tools to the Broadband.gov Web site to help users measure their broadband speeds or report that they do not have broadband available. The FCC announced on March 11 that it has added new features called the Consumer Broadband Test and the Broadband Dead Zone Report to Broadband.gov. The Consumer Broadband Test measures broadband quality indicators such as speed and latency and reports that information to consumers and the FCC. A mobile version of the app, the first mobile app released by the FCC, is also available through the Apple and Android app stores. The Consumer Broadband Test uses two popular broadband testing tools: the Ookla Speed Test and the Network Diagnostic Tool, running on the Measurement Lab (M-Lab) platform. The FCC plans to offer additional broadband testing tools in the future, the agency said in a press

release.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169618/FCC\\_launches\\_broadband\\_test\\_site\\_for\\_consumers](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9169618/FCC_launches_broadband_test_site_for_consumers)

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

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

See item [18](#)

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

## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

47. *March 12, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Bomb scare closes road in Codorus State Park.** Blooming Grove Road in York, Pennsylvania, was closed off for almost three hours March 11 after police and fire officials responded to a report of a suspicious package in a parking lot at Codorus State Park. But after bringing out a robot from the Pennsylvania State Police Hazardous Devices and Explosives Section, the contents of the bag turned out to be security sensors from a store, Penn Township's Police Chief said. An unidentified man notified staff in the state park's gift shop after he noticed a plastic bag from Target that appeared to be ticking and blinking with a red light in the parking lot near Smith Station Road, the chief said. A park official got close enough to the bag to hear the sound and see the light, retreated and notified Penn Township Police. Route 216 was closed just before 5 p.m. from Smith Station Road to Hoff Road, and an inner perimeter was set up around the bag. The closure left about a dozen parents — who had children at the nearby Sunshine Place Preschool on Blooming Grove Road — waiting to get to the school. After the road was reopened, the investigation was turned over to the Department of Conservation and National Resources, which has a police department in the park.

Source: [http://www.ydr.com/ci\\_14659400?source=most\\_email](http://www.ydr.com/ci_14659400?source=most_email)

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

## **Dams Sector**

48. *March 11, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania; New Jersey; Ohio) **Pa., NJ, Ohio residents prep for possible flooding.** Just weeks after dealing with record-setting snowfall, residents in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New Jersey are preparing for the possibility of flooding. A large portion of Pennsylvania and all of New Jersey is under a flood watch. Parts of Ohio, along the Ohio River, is under a watch, too, with the threat of heavy rain combining with melting snowpack. A forecast of warm weather and several days of rain will cause deep snow in the mountains to melt, according to the National Weather Service. Flooding in Pittsburgh could begin Friday night, and the Ohio River in the city is expected to crest about two feet above flood stage on Sunday

afternoon, according to the NWS. Emergency management officials in the Pittsburgh region had warned of the possibility of major flooding as record-breaking amounts of snow began to thaw. February was the snowiest month in Pittsburgh-area history. The Allegheny County Emergency Services chief said last week that “the rivers are going to flood. It’s just a question of where.” The Pittsburgh mayor declared a state of emergency on Wednesday. The declaration will help the city more easily control resources, if needed. The Army Corps of Engineer’s Pittsburgh district said it has 107,000 sandbags and 650 linear feet of temporary flood wall available. The Corps has also drawn down its 16 reservoirs in the Ohio River Basin in preparation.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j2gl0uGCEsEcUn8\\_ppj135W3o7xAD9ECO6KO0](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5j2gl0uGCEsEcUn8_ppj135W3o7xAD9ECO6KO0)

49. *March 11, Hydro World* – (Washington) **Dam safety and security.** Dozens of participants recently completed a series of exercises designed to develop a strategy to improve disaster resilience and preparedness in the Tri-Cities area of Washington State (Kennewick, Pasco, and Richland). Participants expect that this exercise-based approach can serve as an effective vehicle for developing integrated disaster resilience strategies for other regions in the U.S., says the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS). The exercise is part of the 2009 Dams Sector Exercise Series — Columbia River Basin (DSES-09). Participants include the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, DHS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and regional stakeholders. DSES-09 efforts are based on a severe rain-on-snow scenario that affects a large portion of the Columbia River Basin and leads to significant flooding along the river. The flooding event leads to overtopping and subsequent breaching of levees in the Tri-Cities area. This poses emergency management and public safety challenges and affects several other critical infrastructure sectors, such as transportation and energy, DHS says. The DSES-09 effort is organized into five tracks: modeling and mapping, pre-disaster operational response, state and local preparedness and emergency response, long-term restoration and economic resilience, and integrated regional strategy. Each track was conducted separately. The overall DSES-09 effort will culminate with the development of a regional disaster resilience and preparedness strategy for the Columbia River Basin.

Source: [http://www.hydroworld.com/index/display/article-display/4015092010/articles/hydro-review/volume-29/issue-2/departments/dam-safety\\_amp\\_security.html](http://www.hydroworld.com/index/display/article-display/4015092010/articles/hydro-review/volume-29/issue-2/departments/dam-safety_amp_security.html)

50. *March 10, Peninsula Daily News* – (Washington) **Elwha dams removal good for salmon, but maybe not for trout.** Destroying two dams to free the Elwha River in Washington State could restore salmon habitat but make life more precarious for river trout, a research ecologist said. The 210-foot Glines Canyon Dam and the 105-foot Elwha Dam will be removed beginning next year in a \$308 million National Park Service project. A spokesperson of the U.S. Geological Survey — who has been working with dozens of other scientists to collect samples and data — told more than 75 people who crowded into the Olympic National Park Visitor Center on Tuesday about researchers’ expectations once the dams are removed. Over the long term,

salmon will benefit, he said. With the dams gone, the fish will be able to swim up to old spawning grounds. “We likely won’t see the full impact for several generations of salmon,” he added. “And realistically, it could be 100 years before we can tell exactly what is happening.” Researchers are worried about the river trout. The dams create artificial reservoirs, which are good trout habitat, he said. Once those are gone, scientists don’t know what will happen, he added. “Bull trout are listed as a species of concern, so there are great concerns about the effects on the species,” he said. Trout was not naturally a prominent species of the river, but grew in numbers as the right environment was created by the dams, he said. Work to tear down the dams is expected to be finished in 2014. Requests for proposals for the work are expected to be issued by the end of the month and awarded by September.

Source: <http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20100311/news/303119991>

51. *March 10, Portage Daily Register* – (Wisconsin) **FEMA won’t provide money to fix crack in Wyocena dam.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has said no to Wyocena’s request for money to fix a crack in a dam that was discovered last November, even though village officials say the damage was almost certainly caused by the June 2008 flooding. A spokesperson of Portage-based General Engineering Co. said regional FEMA officials from Chicago recently told Wisconsin Emergency Management that FEMA would not pay to fix the breach in the center dam because the damage was discovered outside the scope of the original repair work, and because it was not discovered within 60 days of FEMA’s original contact with the village shortly after the 2008 flooding. However, he said, there was no way that the problem could have been noticed until November, when the refilling of Lake Wyona had to be halted because of the breach. The Village Board on Monday said it would not accept FEMA’s rejection, and has enlisted the aid of Wisconsin’s federal elected officials plead the village’s case with FEMA.

Source: [http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt\\_and\\_politics/article\\_bec41bb4-2ca4-11df-ba60-001cc4c002e0.html](http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt_and_politics/article_bec41bb4-2ca4-11df-ba60-001cc4c002e0.html)

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



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

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