



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 25 March 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to Reuters, Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday it had arrested 113 al Qaeda militants including suicide bombers who had been planning attacks on energy facilities in the world's top oil exporter. (See item [2](#))
- The Associated Press reports that investigators are trying to determine what led to an estimated 200 pounds of sulfur trioxide leaking at the BASF plant near the northeast Missouri town of Palmyra on Monday. The chemical plant and neighboring industries were evacuated, and a seven-mile stretch of the Mississippi River was closed. (See item [5](#))

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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 24, Highlands Today* – (Florida) **Man charged with firing at transformer.** Authorities say an early-morning power outage on March 21 that left almost 1,500 residents in the dark for eight hours happened after a Lake Placid man fired at a transformer with an AK-47. The man, 22, was charged with 61 counts of possession of a weapon or ammo by a convicted Florida felon and damaging

property/criminal mischief. He remained in the Highlands County Jail under a \$320,000 bond. The first round from the weapon reportedly penetrated the transformer's casing, which caused coolant to leak out and led to the "catastrophic failure," according to the arrest report. Approximately 1,494 homes and businesses lost power. To restore power, Glades Electric pulled a mobile substation from Moore Haven with a tractor trailer, according to the general manger. All safety precautions were followed, all lines were reconnected and power was back on at 10:30 a.m. Several tests will be done on the transformer to see if it can be restored to working order. A key one is an oil sample test, which would tell whether or not there was a fire inside the device. The manager said they are expecting the results in the next few days. Three witnesses who were present at the time of the shooting implicated the man as the perpetrator, according to the arrest report.

Source: <http://www2.highlandstoday.com/content/2010/mar/24/la-man-charged-with-firing-at-transformer/>

2. *March 24, Reuters* – (International) **Riyadh says arrests militants planning oil attacks.** Saudi Arabia said on Wednesday it had arrested 113 al Qaeda militants including suicide bombers who had been planning attacks on energy facilities in the world's top oil exporter. The interior ministry said its sweep, among the biggest in several years, netted 58 suspected Saudi militants and 52 from Yemen. The militants, who were also from Bangladesh, Eritrea, and Somalia, were backed by al Qaeda in Yemen, it added in a statement, without giving the dates of the arrests. A counter-terrorism expert at Janusian security consultants in London said the arrests showed the Saudi oil sector remained a priority target for al Qaeda. Saudi security was making it difficult for militants to operate in the kingdom but counter-terrorist activity was having little impact on al Qaeda's regional arm, al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), in Yemen, he said. AQAP "represents a consistent, if not growing threat to the oil sector and Western interests in the region," he said. The 113 militants were organized into three cells, including two planning suicide attacks on oil and security facilities in Saudi Arabia's oil-producing Eastern Province, home to the world's biggest oil refinery. U.S. allied-Saudi Arabia and Western countries fear al Qaeda is exploiting instability in impoverished Yemen to launch attacks in the region and beyond.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE62N36H20100324>

3. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **W.Pa. tanker crash spills diesel, driver injured.** A truck driver is hospitalized in critical condition after his fuel tanker overturned, spilling thousands of gallons of diesel fuel into a stream. State police say the 39-year-old of New Castle was flown to UPMC Presbyterian hospital in Pittsburgh after the crash just before 4:30 a.m. on March 24 near Oil City. That is about 75 miles north of Pittsburgh. Police say the man went off the roadway. The tanker was carrying 7,000 gallons of diesel, which ended up in a stream and caught fire. Traffic was being detoured.

Source: <http://www.timesleader.com/news/ap?articleID=4193627>

4. *March 24, Fierce Government IT* – (National) **U.S. electrical grid probed but not yet attacked, says paper.** Evidence suggests that "unknown foreign entities" have probed

computer networks controlling the U.S. electrical grid, which would become a target during a cyber attack, according to a paper from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Electrical power systems have long been targets, writes the director of CSIS's Technology and Public Policy Program. But, now that Internet protocol commercial systems run the electrical grid, they can be a low cost target made from a long range, he writes. Back in 2007, testers from the Idaho National Labs—in what has been called the Aurora Generator Test—staged a hacking experiment in which they remotely changed the operating cycle of a generator, causing it to fail and emit smoke, he notes. However, despite likely foreign probes of the power grid, it is unlikely that foreign powers have left behind a cyber time bomb ready for activation on command, he says. “A ‘time bomb’ planted in January could not reliably be expected to work in March or April,” he writes. “Why risk planting something that might not work a month or so later?” The fact that the probes have not led to a hacker-provoked blackout suggests that non-state actors do not yet have the capacity to penetrate into the grid. If they had managed to penetrate into them, they would seek to cause immediate destruction. However, that does not mean they will not learn. And in any case, the American grid would be a target in a future conflict, he writes. “The United States cannot safely assume that it is not vulnerable to cyber attacks on its electrical grid, and should consider how it might improve its ability to defend these networks,” he concludes.

Source: <http://www.fiercegovernmentit.com/story/u-s-electrical-grid-probed-not-yet-attacked-says-paper/2010-03-24>

For another story, see item [20](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Release of sulfur trioxide at northeast Missouri plant leads to inquiry.** Investigators are trying to determine what led to an estimated 200 pounds of the acid rain-producing gas sulfur trioxide leaking at the BASF plant near the northeast Missouri town of Palmyra. The release happened the morning of March 22. No one was hurt but the plant and neighboring industries were evacuated and a seven-mile stretch of the Mississippi River was closed. The plant makes chemicals for the agricultural industry. Plant manager told the Hannibal Courier-Post that the leak was likely from a mechanical failure. State investigators planned to test for environmental damage and look at whether regulatory action was needed.

Source: <http://www.fox4kc.com/news/sns-ap-mo--sulfurtrioxiderelease,0,7171402.story>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

6. *March 24, Warren Tribune Chronicle* – (Ohio) **Threat called into General Electric plant.** A bomb threat was called into the General Electric plant on North Park Avenue in Warren the morning of March 23. Police and fire personnel were called to the building after plant officials received an anonymous phone call about 10:30 a.m. saying there was a bomb there, said a police lieutenant. He said the threat was vague and did not give a specific location but officials took it seriously. Police, fire and GE personnel checked the plant and did not find any sign of a bomb, he said. GE officials could not be reached for comment.

Source: <http://www.tribtoday.com/page/content.detail/id/535187.html?nav=5021>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *March 24, Aviation Week* – (National) **MDA halts target buys from Coleman Aerospace.** The U.S. Missile Defense Agency is halting its work with Coleman Aerospace, owned by L-3 Communications, due to quality control problems in preparing targets for the agency's flight test program, according to a missile defense program source. MDA's director informed Coleman he would halt business shortly after the company supplied a faulty C-17-launched target for a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (Thaad) flight test in December 2009. The test was aborted after the target encountered problems. The MDA Executive Director pointed to the Coleman target during the February rollout of the Fiscal 2011 budget request and complained about quality control problems in industry. The target was found to have a "big-time quality problem," he said. "Along about 20,000 feet [altitude], the booster motors light off and the target assumes the trajectory toward the firing unit. We all sat there and watched the target fall into the water." The decision was made after an MDA quality control team turned up major problems at Coleman's facility, according to the source. The company "didn't pass the 101 test" for quality control, the source told Aviation Week.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2010/03/24/02.xml&headline=MDA Halts Target Buys From Coleman Aerospace&channel=defense](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/asd/2010/03/24/02.xml&headline=MDA%20Halts%20Target%20Buys%20From%20Coleman%20Aerospace&channel=defense)

8. *March 23, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Feds to open 1 processing line at Nuclear Fuel Services in East Tennessee.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is allowing an East Tennessee plant that manufactures fuel for submarines and aircraft carriers to resume some of its operations. The NRC gave Nuclear Fuel Services in Erwin permission to resume operation of its Navy fuel process line. All process lines at the plant have been shut down because of an October 13 incident, where high levels of heated nitrous oxide fumes damaged pipes processing radioactive scrap metal for the Department of Energy. No one was injured, and there was no environmental damage.

But a report said potential safety consequences to workers were high. The NRC says it will be monitoring the Navy fuel line to determine whether to resume operation of the remaining process lines at the plant.

Source: <http://www.whnt.com/news/sns-ap-tn--nuclearfuel-services,0,376261.story>

9. *March 22, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **YPG employee data possibly compromised.** The personal information of more than 700 Yuma Proving Ground employees may be at risk of identity theft because a home computer that contained their data may have been compromised. According to a YPG spokesman, personnel information from 2005-2007, which included the names and Social Security numbers of the employees at that time, was being stored on the personal home computer of an employee of the installation's Resource Management Division. He said the employee took home the information and put it on a home computer in an effort to support the base's continuity of operations plan. However, he said the resource management division employee did not have the authorization to store the personal information on their home computer. He said YPG learned of the possible computer breach when the resource management division employee reported on January 26 that they were having problems with their home computer and reported it to the base's Security and Information Assurance Division, which conducted an investigation. The spokesman also said the Army has taken the matter very seriously and is reviewing current policies and practices to make sure something like this does not happen again.

Source: <http://www.yumasun.com/news/computer-57161-information-wullenjohn.html>

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *March 24, Patriot Ledger* – (Massachusetts) **3 South Shore banks robbed hours apart Tuesday.** In the most brazen of three South Shore, Massachusetts, daylight bank robberies on March 23, a man threatened to detonate explosives taped to his chest and then left a trail of money as he fled, Rockland police said. The robberies were reported within about four hours and 16 miles of each other. The first occurred about noon in Stoughton at the South Shore Savings Bank branch at 1538 Turnpike St. Police said a white man who appeared to be in his late 20s passed a note to a teller demanding cash. He escaped on foot. The robber wore a white hooded sweatshirt and white baseball cap. Police said he was armed but they declined to reveal the kind of weapon he had. In Rockland at about 3:30 p.m., employees at South Coastal Bank, 279 Union St. told investigators a 6-foot-tall white man in a gray hooded sweatshirt threatened to detonate an explosive if his demands for money were not met. A Rockland police search dog team tracked the robber a short distance to Blanchard Street where he may have fled in a small gray vehicle, police said. Half an hour later, a Rockland Trust branch in Hanover was robbed, a Rockland police dispatcher said. Hanover police said a man in his 20s wearing a light-colored sweatshirt robbed the branch on Columbia Road about 4:30 p.m. and made off with an undetermined amount of cash. The robber did not show a weapon.

Source: http://www.patriotledger.com/news/cops_and_courts/x126578925/3-South-Shore-banks-robbed-hours-apart-Tuesday

11. *March 24, WRIC 8 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Security breach in some Union First National bank accounts.** Some Union First Market Bank customers are upset after learning their private account information is accessible to other customers. Bank administrators say when online bill-pay accounts were transferred from First Market Bank to Union First Market Bank over the weekend, a bad file containing information of around 1000 customers was sent. That data is now accessible to some other customers. Union First Market Bank says it's working to fix the problem. The CEO says the bank will offer credit checks and identity theft protection to customers impacted by the problem. Administrators hope to be back online with all information secure by March 24.

Source: <http://www.wric.com/Global/story.asp?S=12193525>

12. *March 24, Middletown Times Herald Record* – (New York) **Card-skimmer suspect still at large, cops say.** Village of Goshen investigators are still trying to find a woman who installed a skimming device and hidden camera on an ATM at the West Main Street branch of Bank of America in December. She returned late at night on December 12 and 13 to remove the devices after numerous customers used the machine. Bank customers began reporting unauthorized withdrawals from their accounts made between February 25 and March 2 at ATMs in New York City and Chicago. At least 37 Bank of America customers, the majority of them Goshen residents, had more than \$25,000 in all stolen from their accounts. Goshen's village police chief said law enforcement agencies believe the woman is part of a two-person team hitting ATMs all over for almost a year. And the number of local banks targeted by the ring might be much larger than previously known.

Source:

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100324/NEWS/3240342/-1/NEWS>

13. *March 23, Courthouse News Service* – (National) **Class claims Ameriprise presided over Ponzi.** Securities America, a subsidiary of Ameriprise Financial, ran a \$700 million Ponzi scheme in promissory notes, investors say in a federal class action. The class claims Securities America ignored repeated warnings from its advisers to disclose the truth, and claimed that providing risk information to its own brokers and investors would "be a bad thing." The lead plaintiff filed on behalf of all Securities America investors who bought notes from any of three Medical Capital Corps. or "Med Cap" special purpose corporations from 2004-2008. The lead plaintiff say the Med Cap notes they bought for \$768,000 are now worthless. Under the control of Minneapolis-based Ameriprise Financial, and its wholly owned subsidiary Securities America Financial Corp., Securities America acted as a statutory underwriter to sell \$697 million of securities issued by Tustin, California, medical receivables company Med Cap, according to the complaint. The class claims that Med Cap was a \$2 billion Ponzi scheme, the subject of a 2009 SEC civil action and a Massachusetts enforcement

action.

Source: <http://www.courthousenews.com/2010/03/23/25799.htm>

14. *March 23, TechWorld* – (National) **Russia arrests WorldPay hackers after FBI plea.** Three men accused of being involved in an audacious attack on US ATM machines in 2008 have been arrested by the feared Russian Security Service (FSB) in an event that is being interpreted as marking a sea change in Russian policy towards cybercrime. The Financial Times reports that the FSB arrested the alleged Russian mastermind of the attack and two alleged accomplices all believed by the FBI to be involved in the high-profile \$9 million (£6 million) raid on a US-based ATM system run by RBS WorldPay, a subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Scotland. The attack is said to have allowed the attackers to use cloned payroll cards to steal the money from 2,100 cash machines across the US in a 12-hour period in November 2008 after the gang cracked the encryption used to protect cards from tampering. The immediate fate of the men is unclear but the most likely course of action for the authorities is that they will be tried in Russia. If found guilty, the lack of an extradition treaty between the US and Russia means none will face jail time in the US.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/032310-russia-arrests-worldpay-hackers-after.html?hpg1=bn>

15. *March 23, Southern Oregon Mail Tribune* – (Oregon) **Police suspect ‘Grandpa Bandit’ in Medford heist.** An older man has robbed six Oregon banks in the past half-year. The reward for the “Grandpa Bandit” — suspected of robbing a Medford bank on March 18 — has now hit \$15,000. Bank of America is offering a reward of up to \$10,000, and the Oregon Financial Institutions Security Task Force is offering a reward of up to \$5,000, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the serial bank robber. Suspected in five other robberies in Salem, Sherwood, West Linn, and Hillsboro, the unknown man is believed to have robbed the Bank of America branch at 790 Stevens St. in Medford on March 18. Five of the six banks he has robbed are Bank of America branches. Although he did not show a weapon in the Medford robbery, he has threatened tellers in previous robberies. In one instance, investigators believe that he threatened to kill a teller as he showed her a weapon in his waistband.

Source:

<http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100323/NEWS/3230316>

16. *March 22, Krebs on Security* – (National) **Organized crooks hit NJ town, Ark. utility.** An Arkansas public water utility and a New Jersey town are the latest victims of an organized cyber crime gang that is stealing tens of millions of dollars from small to mid-sized organizations via online bank theft. On March 18, officials in Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, acknowledged that a sizable amount of money was taken in an “outside intrusion into a municipal banking account,” suggesting in public statements that computer criminals were responsible. On March 22, details began to emerge that implicate the work of the same gang that Krebs on Security has been tracking for close to a year now. The mayor confirmed that the thieves took close to \$100,000 from town coffers, sending the money in sub-\$10,000 chunks to individuals around the country who had no prior businesses with Egg Harbor. The town is working with local

authorities and the FBI. In a separate incident on March 4, organized crooks stole roughly \$130,000 from North Garland County Regional Water District, a public, nonprofit utility in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Again, thieves somehow broke into the utility's online bank account and set up unauthorized transfers to more than a dozen individuals around the country that were not affiliated with the district.

Source: <http://www.krebsonsecurity.com/2010/03/organized-crooks-hit-nj-town-arizona-utility/>

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Transportation Sector

17. *March 24, Reno Gazette Journal* – (Nevada) **Unexploded mortar round found along Highway 50.** Last Friday morning, Nevada Department of Transportation workers who were conducting burning along Highway 50 came across a suspicious device and immediately called the Lyon County Sheriff's Office to investigate the mechanism. According to the LCSO, deputies were dispatched at 10:20 a.m. to an area along Highway 50 about a quarter of a mile east of Highway 95A and found an unexploded mortar round next to the highway. Law enforcement immediately closed the roadway at the intersection of Highway 95A and Highway 50, to Highway 50 and the Ramsey/Weeks Cutoff. The highways were closed for about 1-1/2 hours while a U.S. Navy Explosive Ordinance and Disposal Unit arrived at the scene and took custody of the eight-inch mortar round for disposal. The weapon is used for training by the military, according to the LCSO.

Source: <http://www.rgj.com/article/20100324/FERNLEY04/3240384/1306/FERNLEY>

18. *March 24, Yuma Sun* – (Arizona) **Bomb threat at Yuma International Airport.** The Yuma International Airport was shut down late Tuesday night as a safety precaution after the Yuma Police Department received a phone call regarding a bomb threat in the terminal. The corporate account manager for the airport said a call came in to YPD at 9:45 p.m. stating there were four explosives set on site. Within minutes, officers from YPD and the Explosive Ordinance Disposal unit (EOD) from Marine Corps Air Station Yuma were on the scene as well as directors and key personnel from the airport. Every person was immediately evacuated from the building. At the time of the phone call, Flight 2849 had just arrived from Phoenix and was sitting on the tarmac. Those passengers were kept on the plane for close to 20 minutes before being released. Three more flights were scheduled to land after 10 p.m. but were redirected to the Yuma Pilot Center just east of Arizona Avenue by the Marine control tower. After a thorough investigation by EOD and YPD, which included the use of military bomb detection canines, no explosives were found. The search concluded around 11:15 p.m.

Source: <http://www.yumasun.com/articles/yuma-57210-international-airport.html>

19. *March 24, Port Huron Times Herald* – (Michigan) **Ice flow continues to hinder ship traffic.** Restrictions remain on commercial ships traveling through the Blue Water Area as officials continue to battle built-up ice clogging the St. Clair River. A Lt. Commander with the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit said several vessels are working

to break up the ice in southern Lake Huron and flush ice out of the river. “The St. Clair River is just packed full of ice,” he said. “That ice bridge that was up in southern Lake Huron has deteriorated and basically ice chunks are coming downriver.” Freighters must get permission from the Coast Guard and have an icebreaker escort to travel through the area, he said. Three ships were scheduled to pass late Tuesday night and one today, he said. Three icebreakers were scheduled to work through the night and into the morning, he said. Freighters had difficulties making their way through the area during the weekend. Coast Guard icebreakers had to assist a few after they became stuck in the ice jam.

Source:

<http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20100324/NEWS01/3240306/Ice+flow+continues+to+hinder+ship+traffic>

20. *March 23, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* – (Ohio) **Large bubbling gas leak shut Lorain Road, forced 10 people from homes overnight.** Lorain Road in North Ridgeville, Ohio was shut down for several hours overnight and residents of five homes were evacuated after a “major underground gas leak” began bubbling up through the road in North Ridgeville. A call came in reporting a strong odor of gas in the area of Lorain Road and Plantation Place about 1:30 a.m., and North Ridgeville police and firefighters who responded found natural gas “bubbles coming up all over the road” for about a 100-foot stretch of Lorain Rd. “It was really sort of strange,” said a fire lieutenant. “It was coming up through cracks in the black top.” “The gas company very quickly located the leak and turned it off,” he said. In the meantime, residents of five homes — 10 people in all — were evacuated to a North Ridgeville Fire Station about a quarter-mile away, where they stayed for several hours. “It was a large leak, and due to the proximity to the homes, we evacuated the residences,” he said.

Source: <http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2010/03/23/large-bubbling-gas-leak-shut-lorain-road-forced-10-people-from-homes-overnight/>

21. *March 23, Woodbury Bulletin* – (Minnesota) **Flooding closes Stillwater Lift Bridge.** The Minnesota Department of Transportation closed the Stillwater Lift Bridge at 10 a.m. Tuesday due to the rising floodwaters of the St. Croix River. The river is still expected to crest at 87.2 feet on Thursday. With the bridge closure by MnDOT, the city of Stillwater is finishing a jersey-barrier floodwall across Chestnut Street, the street leading to bridge access on the Minnesota side. Bridge traffic is being detoured south to Interstate 94. A flood warning, which is in effect until further notice, was issued last week. Officials say the river may crest even higher than the 87.2 feet currently predicted. If that happens, the flooding levels would become the seventh highest in recorded history.

Source: <http://www.woodburybulletin.com/event/article/id/34449/group/home/>

22. *March 23, SmarterTravel.com* – (National) **Yet another safety-related fine against American.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has proposed a \$300,000 fine against American Airlines for flying an airplane with broken pitot probe heaters on four occasions. Pitot probes are tubes mounted on the exteriors of aircraft to measure aircraft speeds, and the heaters prevent them from icing in certain conditions.

Mechanics initially thought the cockpit indicator light for the heaters was broken, but later learned the heaters themselves had malfunctioned. But because the problem was initially logged as a broken indicator light, the plane was flown several times with broken heaters before the actual issue was discovered.

Source: <http://www.smartertravel.com/blogs/today-in-travel/yet-another-safety-related-fine-against-american.html?id=4556710>

For more stories, see items [3](#), [53](#), and [57](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Official: Pipe bomb ups ante in Texas mailbox case.** A federal official says discovery of an apparent pipe bomb in an east Texas mailbox “does up the ante” in an investigation of incendiary devices found in postal facilities in the region. A U.S. Postal Inspector said Wednesday her agency plans to double a reward, to \$10,000, after the device was found Tuesday in the town of Laird Hill, about 120 miles east of Dallas. She says there was no concern about whether the apparent pipe bomb could have been detonated. Agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives removed it. The item was at least the 10th potentially explosive device found in east Texas postal facilities over the past month. The others were described as bottles containing flammable liquids and wicks. None exploded.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/tx/6928045.html>

24. *March 23, WGNO 26 New Orleans* – (Louisiana) **Explosive damages U.S. postal service mailbox in Metairie.** On March 20 at approximately 2:15 a.m., a U.S. Postal Service mailbox was destroyed by some type of explosive device at 7003 Veterans Blvd., in Metairie, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff’s Office reports. Surveillance video shows a vehicle, occupied by three suspects, pull into the parking area in front of the Post Office with one individual exiting the car, lighting a device and dropping it into one of the metal mailboxes. The resulting explosion damaged the mailbox and contents.

Source: <http://www.neworleans.com/news/abc-26-news/358563.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

25. *March 24, Winfield Press* – (Illinois) **116 people affected by Subway food poisoning outbreak.** The number continues to grow as more and more people are coming forward to report shigella infections after eating at a Lombard Subway. A spokesperson for the DuPage County Health Department said there are currently 116 confirmed shigella cases linked to the Subway restaurant as of March 24. Of those cases, 13 people were hospitalized and discharged. He also said the source of the shigella is unknown at this time and might never be pinpointed. The restaurant, 1009 E. Roosevelt Road, has been

closed since March 4. Shigella infections are spread from person to person, and also can be acquired from contaminated food. The disease can be prevented by frequent hand washing with soap and water. People who have developed these symptoms between February 24 to March 1 after eating at the Lombard Subway restaurant are advised to contact their physicians and the DuPage County Health Department.

Source: <http://www.mysuburbanlife.com/winfield/newsnow/x1009756064/116-people-affected-by-Subway-food-poisoning-outbreak>

26. *March 23, Food Quality News* – (International) **Global melamine standard would protect consumers, lower trade barriers.** A global initiative to set an internationally-recognized standard for melamine in foods could harmonize efforts to detect future contamination and avoid unwanted trade barriers, said food safety officials. The New Zealand Food Safety Authority (NZFSA) is leading the group, made up of experts from around the world. The scheme was set up following the 2008 scandal in China when tons of melamine-tainted milk powder resulted in six deaths and the sickening of an estimated 300,000 people. Melamine was added to the powder to artificially bump up protein measurements when the product was tested. The NZFSA's principal toxicologist will lead a delegation to Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods in Turkey next month to discuss the issue. The body is likely to consider a limit set not only to protect consumers but also to ensure governments can take action against the deliberate adulteration of products.

Source: http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Public-Concerns/Global-melamine-standard-would-protect-consumers-lower-trade-barriers?utm_source=RSS_text_news

27. *March 23, WWTN 9 Cadillac* – (Michigan) **Cattle herd in Emmet County test positive for bovine TB.** Over the next six months, state field workers will begin testing cattle for tuberculosis at nearly 70 farms after the deadly disease turned up in a herd in northern Michigan. Field workers for the Michigan Department of Agriculture made the discovery during routine testing. The state will now begin testing all cattle in a 10-mile radius of the infected herd. The state says Bovine Tuberculosis turned up in a herd of cattle at a farm in the southern part of Emmet County. A spokesperson for the department says all infected cattle have been taken out of the food chain. It's now up to the USDA to determine what to do with the rest of the cattle that has been exposed to the disease at the farm. The state is not revealing the exact location of the farm to protect the owner's identity.

Source: <http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=215408&cID=1>

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Water Sector

28. *March 23, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Idaho) **Automotive and Industrial Distributors of Pocatello agrees to spend over \$38,000 to settle EPA spill prevention violations.** Automotive & Industrial Distributors has agreed to pay the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a \$38,500 penalty for violations of the Clean Water Act requirements related to the prevention of oil spills. The alleged violations occurred at an oil storage and distribution facility operated by A&I, located at 2806 South Fifth Avenue in Pocatello, Idaho. According to documents in the case, EPA alleges that A&I violated federal Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) regulations, as specified under the Clean Water Act. These regulations require that facilities handling or storing a certain volume of oil take specific actions to prepare for and prevent spills. SPCC requirements include having a detailed, written plan to guide the facility on a variety of measures for preventing and responding to petroleum spills. During an EPA inspection of the A&I facility in September 2008, inspectors observed several violations of these regulations, most notably the failure to prepare and implement an adequate SPCC Plan. Several storm drains near the facility discharge directly to the Portneuf River, which is a spawning habitat for Cutthroat, Rainbow, and Brown trout. The Portneuf River feeds the Portneuf Aquifer, a source of drinking water.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/EAD7A00C31CDF6BC852576EF007C9507>

29. *March 22, Water Technology Online* – (National) **EPA announces new strategies for safe drinking water.** In a speech today at the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA) annual conference in Washington, D.C., The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator announced that the agency is developing a broad new set of strategies to strengthen public health protection from contaminants in drinking water, according to a press release. The new strategies are meant to streamline decision-making, expand protection under existing law and promote cost-effective new technologies to meet the needs of rural, urban and other water-stressed communities, the release stated. According to the release, the shift in drinking water strategy is organized around four principles: Address contaminants as a group rather than one at a time so that enhancement of drinking water protection can be achieved cost-effectively; foster development of new drinking water treatment technologies to address health risks posed by a broad array of contaminants; use the authority of multiple statutes to help protect drinking water; and partner with states to share more complete data from monitoring at public water systems. Additionally, EPA announced that scientific advances allow for stricter regulations for the carcinogenic compounds tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, acrylamide, and epichlorohydrin, the release stated. Within the next year, EPA will initiate rulemaking efforts to revise the tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene standards using the strategy's framework. A revision of epichlorohydrin and acrylamide standards will follow later, according to the release.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=73719

30. *March 22, NBC 4 New York* – (New Jersey; New York) **NJ hotel admits dumping raw sewage into New York Harbor.** A busy night at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey used to be bad news for the Hackensack River as it flowed into New York Harbor. But efforts by hotel management to flush toilet waste directly into

the river — bypassing the sewer system — will now cost the hotel dearly after its ownership agreed to plead guilty to a fourth degree crime of unlawfully discharging a pollutant in violation of the New Jersey Water Pollution Control Act. The company, RD Secaucus LP, is believed to be a Montreal-based limited partnership. According to the Hackensack Riverkeeper, the hotel management would discharge the waste from a series of pits and tunnels on its property into the river, instead of making a costly fix to the plumbing to send the malodorous material into the Secaucus sewer system as required by law. An anonymous tipster reached out to the Riverkeeper, he investigated, and then turned over his discovery to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Division of Criminal Justice Environmental Crimes Section. Investigators found that “putrid waste water from an underground tunnel was collecting in a grate-covered pit beside the hotel,” according to a news release from the New Jersey Attorney General’s office. Less than a year later, the company pleaded guilty, and agreed to pay the Riverkeeper \$75,000 to continue its river patrol efforts on behalf of the Hackensack, in addition to making the costly repairs the company avoided up until now.

Source: <http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local-beat/Company-Admits-Dumping-Raw-Sewage-into-New-York-Harbor-88849462.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *March 24, Reuters* – (Massachusetts) **Genzyme faces government control of manufacturing.** Genzyme Corp said on Wednesday that the U.S. government will take enforcement action and likely impose fees on the company to ensure that drugs manufactured at its Allston Landing plant in Boston meet manufacturing standards. Genzyme, which makes drugs for rare and chronic diseases, was forced to temporarily close its Allston plant last year due to a viral contamination. The closure led to shortages of two key products. Genzyme said that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration notified the company on Tuesday afternoon that its enforcement action will likely result in a consent decree — a legal agreement that effectively puts a company’s manufacturing operations under government control for an extended period of time. Under a consent decree, Genzyme would also be required to make payments to the government and could incur other costs.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE62N2RG20100324?type=globalMarketsNews>

32. *March 24, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Bird flu remains a threat: WHO.** Bird flu outbreaks that have killed seven people in several countries so far this year show the virus remains a threat to humans, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said Wednesday. “The newly confirmed human and poultry cases of avian influenza this year are a reminder that the virus poses a real and continuous threat to human health,” the WHO said in a statement. One danger is that bird flu, also known as H5N1, may mutate, warned the WHO’s regional adviser for communicable diseases. “The influenza virus is unpredictable,” he said. “There is a constant risk that the H5N1 virus

will combine with another strain of influenza.” So far this year, authorities monitored 21 human cases of bird flu from Egypt, Vietnam and Indonesia, including seven deaths, the organization said. There have also been reports of outbreaks of the virus in poultry and wild flocks in other parts of Southeast Asia, as well as in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Israel and Nepal, it said. Last week, a three-year-old Vietnamese girl stricken with the virus died of severe lung infection, authorities there said.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5geiFWivvPAI6cCiw3GvsQIVxGMzg>

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Government Facilities Sector

33. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Lawmakers tighten security at Louisiana State Capitol.** Security efforts at the Louisiana Capitol in Baton Rouge are being tightened. Public access to the building has been restricted to fewer entrances, X-ray machines scan bags for visitors, and more people are working at security stations. The House speaker says he and the Senate president decided to beef up security because they felt previous security measures had been “extraordinarily lax.” The public now can only walk into the building from the main entrance and two side entrances. Other side doors and entrances at the back of the building are restricted to those who work in the building. Anyone without a security badge for the building also must walk through a metal detector and have their purses, briefcases, and bags run through an X-ray scanner.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=12194223>

34. *March 24, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Gas line cut at home of Va. congressman’s brother.** Authorities are investigating a severed propane line at the home of a Virginia congressman’s brother after tea party activists posted the man’s address online. Activists are upset about the U.S. Representative’s vote in favor of the health care reform. His office said that a line to a propane tank on a gas grill was cut at his brother’s Charlottesville home on Tuesday. Tea party activists had posted the address online thinking it was the congressman’s home, telling opponents to drop by and “express their thanks” for his vote. An Albemarle County spokeswoman said the county fire marshal’s office was assisting the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She said investigators did not believe the home’s occupants were in danger.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/nation/6928207.html>

35. *March 23, TWEAN 8 Austin* – (Texas) **State committees meet to discuss Capitol security.** State Senate and House Committees met with the Texas Department of Public Safety Monday to discuss security issues at the state Capitol. Concerns were raised in January after police say a 24-year-old walked into a state senator’s office with a loaded gun. He was escorted from the building, but later fired several shots outside. No one was hurt in that incident, but some lawmakers say with all the visitors, especially school children, something more should be done. “You know, we have 300 babies in

here, visiting the Capitol. We need to make it secure for them, let their families know we are very conscientious about providing a safe place to visit,” a state senator from Houston said. The state senator thinks the Capitol needs better surveillance cameras, more patrols and metal detectors, but not everyone agrees. Some say the Capitol should remain easily accessible as the people’s house. The state senator said he’ll go along with whatever the DPS recommends.

Source: http://www.news8austin.com/content/your_news/default.asp?ArID=269747

36. *March 23, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Federal courthouse security is beefed up.** A suspect’s drug trial at the federal courthouse in downtown Des Moines has prompted officials to tighten security at the building. The suspect, 33, is charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine. He was arrested during cocaine raids in August 2008, along with 15 others. A supervisory deputy U.S. marshal said he could not discuss why the security was increased at the courthouse but acknowledged it was connected to the suspect’s trial, which began Monday. The extra security was not in response to a particular incident or threat, he said. Several Homeland Security vehicles marked with “police” and “Federal Protective Service,” encircled the building on Monday. Federal security officers in blue dress coats conducted regular trips around the block, as they have since the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. The federal officers had company on Monday, however. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers were on duty in black uniforms.

Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20100323/NEWS01/3230358/-1/ENT06/Federal-courthouse-security-is-beefed-up>

37. *March 22, College News* – (National) **College grad posts Obama assassination threats on Twitter.** The historic passage of health care reform by the House Sunday evening has yielded many different responses ranging from celebratory to thoughtful to disappointment to, perhaps most disturbingly, murderous rage. According to Gawker, the suspect, who graduated with an IT degree from Vatterott College, expressed his discontent over the government’s plans for health care reform by threatening to murder the President not once, but on four separate occasions.

Source:

http://www.collegenews.com/index.php/?/article/college_grad_posts_obama_assassination_threats_on_twitter_032220102033523/

38. *March 22, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Worker charged in Detroit courthouse bomb threat.** A contract worker at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit has been charged with making a false bomb threat which forced authorities to search the building. Wayne County prosecutors said Monday that the 42-year-old suspect is charged with two felony counts of false bomb threat. The Harrison Township resident also faces misdemeanor malicious use of a telephone. He was to be arraigned Monday. The Associated Press was unable to immediately determine whether Collins had an attorney. The 12-story building was searched after the January 13 call. It houses the prosecutor’s office and circuit court. The suspect was employed by a human services company and worked with prosecutors evaluating defendants’ eligibility for treatment

programs. He currently is on leave.

Source: <http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=215107&cID=2>

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Emergency Services Sector

39. *March 24, Chicago Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **Report: State police plan massive layoffs, station closures.** Illinois Acting State Police director said Tuesday his department will lay off more than 460 troopers and close five regional headquarters, including one in Des Plaines, due to budget shortfalls, the Galesburg Register-Mail is reporting. The published report quotes him as saying staff cuts could reduce the number of sworn state troopers by about 600, or 30 percent of its force now. The force currently has a little over 2,000 troopers. He said, about 100 officers are expected to retire during the fiscal year beginning June 1. With the layoffs, the state police could go from 2,025 sworn officers to 1,425 or 1,450 by mid-2011. The agency's head count hasn't been that low in 40 or 50 years. Only half of the 10 officers now assigned to the Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center in Springfield would remain, he said, while the agency's methamphetamine response team of 42 officers spread throughout the state would be nearly eliminated.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=368212&src=1>

40. *March 24, San Jose Mercury News* – (California) **Trucks burned in possible threat to Calif. police.** Police in Southern California say four city pickups have been torched in an attack that may be linked to previous booby-trap attempts to harm officers. The Hemet city code enforcement trucks were discovered burning at a city lot about 11:30 p.m. Tuesday. The police chief says it's considered a threat against the department. He says a 911 caller on Friday warned a police car would be blown up as retaliation against a crackdown on a motorcycle gang. Officers in Hemet—85 miles east of Los Angeles—have been the targets of three booby-trap attempts since December 31 but escaped injury. A gas pipe was rerouted into a gang task force building, a security fence was rigged with a gun that went off and an explosive device was attached to an officer's car.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_14747685?nclick_check=1

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Information Technology Sector

41. *March 24, IDG News Service* – (International) **Security companies warn of uptick in new IE attack.** Criminals are stepping up their attacks leveraging an unpatched flaw in Microsoft's Internet Explorer browser, using it to install fake antivirus products and malicious back doors on victim's computers. Microsoft first warned of the bug on March 9, saying that it had been used in "targeted attacks." But now, according to researchers, the exploits are much more widespread. By late last week, security vendor AVG was getting reports of 30,000 attacks per day, according to AVG's chief research

officer. “It’s not a massive attack, but it’s an unpatched exploit being used aggressively,” he said on March 23 in an instant message interview. It appears that two separate cybergangs have begun using the exploit — the first uses it to install fake antivirus software on victim’s computers; the second group is installing a variant of the Sinowal Trojan, he said. Most of the attacks are being hosted on Web sites that appear to be specifically set up to host the attack code, rather than hacked sites.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2010/032410-security-companies-warn-of-uptick.html?hpg1=bn>

42. *March 24, Help Net Security* – (International) **Brazil tops global spam rankings.** Brazil, India, Vietnam, USA and Russia head the ranking of countries from which most spam was sent during the first two months of the year, according to a study by Panda Security. Brazil has topped the global spam ranking for January and February. The spam messages themselves are used primarily either to distribute threats or sell illicit products, and the main lure used as part of the social engineering techniques employed is the promise of videos or photos of Brazilian girls. With respect to the cities from which spam was being sent, Seoul was first in the list, followed by Hanoi, New Delhi, Bogota, Sao Paulo and Bangkok.
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9055>
43. *March 23, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Man arrested, accused of making HP threat.** Authorities say a 27-year-old man has been arrested after he purportedly threatened to shoot fellow employees at the new Hewlett-Packard facility in Conway, Arkansas. He told authorities that he was only kidding when he made the comment Friday. A police report released this week says witnesses told authorities that he said he was going to bring two guns to the facility and “shoot some people.” He faces three counts of first-degree terroristic threatening. A Circuit Judge also issued a no-contact order including all HP employees and facilities. Hewlett-Packard opened its technical service center in December and employs more than 600 workers.
Source: <http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2010/mar/23/conway-police-arrest-man-hp-threat/>
44. *March 23, SC Magazine* – (International) **Comments made on deleting data, as organizations struggle to securely and compliantly remove files.** Deleting data should be done efficiently as a failure could lead to a data breach or worse. In a recent blog a SecureWorks solutions architect claimed that many organisations are struggling to delete data in a way that is both secure and compliant. He said: “Some ways to do this include using software to overwrite the data, using a degaussing tool to electronically damage the drives, and physically destroying them. Make sure you keep in mind that whatever method you use, the goal is risk mitigation rather than risk elimination. You’re trying to mitigate the most risk for the least money.” Commenting, the CTO at SecureWorks said that as people are not deleting data efficiently ‘if you want to collect information then buy cheap drives off eBay’. The CTO said: “There are better ways to delete data, a file system is like books and a database is a table of contents and when you delete a file on this it does not delete the file, it removes it from the table of contents. If you keep looking you will find the file. We would help a client

set up a process to delete data.”

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/comments-made-on-deleting-data-as-organisations-struggle-to-securely-and-compliantly-remove-files/article/166315/>

45. *March 23, PC World* – (International) **Firefox fix heads off font attack.** Mozilla pushed out an ahead-of-schedule fix for its Firefox browser to close a critical security hole that became public before the patch was available. The flaw in the Web Open Font Format (WOFF) could potentially allow a malicious Web page to run any command, such as downloading malware, on a victim PC. It was made public by a security researcher in February prior to Mozilla being informed, prompting a debate about the responsible disclosure of security flaws. The critical flaw only affects Firefox 3.6, as earlier browser versions don't support WOFF. According to Mozilla's 3.6.2 release notes, the update also fixes additional security and stability bugs. Opera users should likewise update their browser to fix a vulnerability involving the program's handling of HTTP Content-Length headers. Yesterday's patch squashes a number of other bugs as well; see the Opera 10.51 changelog for full details.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/article/192150/firefox_fix_heads_off_font_attack.html

46. *March 23, The Register* – (International) **Your health, tax, and search data siphoned.** Google, Yahoo, Microsoft's Bing, and other leading websites are leaking medical histories, family income, search queries, and massive amounts of other sensitive data that can be intercepted even when encrypted, computer scientists revealed in a new research paper. Researchers from Indiana University and Microsoft itself were able to infer the sensitive data by analyzing the distinct size and other attributes of each exchange between a user and the website she was interacting with. Using man-in-the-middle attacks, they could glean the information even when transactions were encrypted using the Secure Sockets Layer, or SSL, protocol or the WPA, or Wi-fi Protected Access protocol. The paper showed how they were able to deduce the doctor and medical condition of a person who had entered the information into a site operated by “one of the most reputable companies of online services,” which runs exclusively over an HTTPS channel. In the case of medical conditions, the details were leaked through the site's auto-suggestion feature, which updates potential entries in response to each keystroke.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/03/23/side_channel_attacks_web_apps/

47. *March 23, IDG News Service* – (International) **Google Apps sync tool for Outlook hit by bug.** A bug in Google Apps' Sync for Microsoft Outlook that has apparently existed for months is causing some e-mail messages to remain in Gmail servers and not be downloaded into Outlook, causing end users to overlook messages or see them late. End users in organizations hit by the bug are having to check the Gmail Web interface periodically to make sure they are not missing any e-mail messages in their Outlook PC client. Google acknowledged the bug on March 12 and promised a fix for early last week, but was unable to deliver it. The latest plan is to push out a solution by March 24. “After we fix the server side problem, we will release an automatic update that will resynchronize your mailbox to help ensure that any mail that wasn't downloaded gets

downloaded,” wrote a Google representative identified as an advisor in the Google Apps discussion forum on March 12.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9173978/Google_Apps_sync_tool_for_Outlook_hit_by_bug

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

48. *March 24, Washington Post* – (International) **Telecom companies seek to make Haiti a mobile nation.** The earthquake that devastated Haiti also destroyed the nation’s feeble network for phones and Internet service. Except for cellphones, the population was largely cut off from communication. But out of the rubble, one U.S. wireless industry pioneer sees opportunity. The founder of Voice Stream and former chief executive of T-Mobile USA wants the Haitian government to forget about rebuilding its copper wire communications network. Instead, he thinks Haiti should go mobile. In a keynote speech prepared for delivery at the wireless industry’s CTIA trade show on March 24 in Las Vegas, the chief executive called for the Haitian government to create an all-wireless nation with more robust networks for the population of nearly 10 million and to build an economy centered on mobile technology. The chief executive is asking Haiti to release more spectrum for commercial carriers to get more people to text and use their phones for commerce, banking and other daily needs. He pledged that his company, Trilogy, would commit up to \$100 million to expand its network there. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/03/23/AR2010032304234.html>

49. *March 23, IDG News Service* – (National) **AT&T execs: U.S. must work hard to retain mobile lead.** AT&T executives described the U.S. mobile market as a world leader but warned that without continued hard work that position is in jeopardy, while speaking at the CTIA conference in Las Vegas on March 23. Their comments might seem ironic to iPhone users, many of whom complain about AT&T’s poor network performance. But the growth figures that the executives shared perhaps explain why the operator has had a hard time keeping up with demand. Over the past three years, wireless data volume in the U.S. grew more than 3,000 percent, said the president and CEO of AT&T. During that time, volume at AT&T grew 5,000 percent, he said. The U.S. has 117 million 3G subscribers, or 18 percent of the world’s 3G subscribers, he said. The country with the next most subscribers is Japan, with 101 million 3G users, he said. Since the U.S. only has 7 percent of the world’s total wireless subscribers,

that's remarkable, said the president and CEO of AT&T Mobility. But the current success is no guarantee of success in the future, he said. He fears a time when demand outstrips the ability of networks to support users.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9173971/AT T execs U.S. must work hard to retain mobile lead](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9173971/AT_T_execs_U.S._must_work_hard_to_retain_mobile_lead)

50. *March 23, SC Magazine* – (International) **Claims made that the Digital Economy Bill will cause the end of public WiFi, as Open Rights Group plans demonstration tomorrow.** In the United Kingdom, proposals to hold WiFi providers liable for actions by those connecting to networks could be the death knell for public access. The regulatory affairs spokesman at CMA claimed that it was 'becoming obvious that one of the [Digital Economy] Bill's provisions seems certain to inflict serious damage to the availability of public WiFi access points and thus to an important part of our broadband infrastructure'. Proposals in the bill make it possible for the provider of WiFi access to be classed as an ISP rather than as a subscriber and therefore subject to the same liabilities as BT or TalkTalk. CMA also believes that the bill will impose a significant financial and administrative burden on the smaller operators of wireless services, namely the need to invest in specialist software and/or the need to track clients to computer ports, and to retain client identity details.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/claims-made-that-the-digital-economy-bill-will-cause-the-end-of-public-wifi-as-open-rights-group-plans-demonstration-tomorrow/article/166316/>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *March 24, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **HazMat prompts fitness club evacuation.** A hazmat situation prompted the evacuation of a health club in Goodyear after three workers were splashed with chlorine. About 100 people, many in their workout clothes, were told to leave the Life Time Fitness late Tuesday morning as a precaution. As workers were putting chlorine into a hot tub, one of them was splashed in the face and two others were hit on the legs, fire authorities said. The building contains a child care facility which was also evacuated.

Source: <http://www.kpho.com/news/22921722/detail.html>

52. *March 23, Bend Bulletin* – (Oregon) **McMenamins visitor injured after explosion.** A visitor at McMenamins in downtown Bend, Oregon, was injured Monday evening when an object he picked up in the hotel's soaking pool exploded in his hand. The 43-year-old Portland man was using the soaking pool with his wife and two other people around 10:45 p.m. when he saw something floating in the water and picked it up, intending to throw it away. The object blew up in the man's hand shortly after he picked it up, according to a news release from the Bend Police Department. Police have not identified the object, but the property manager at McMenamins said staff members and police recovered parts of a plastic 2-liter soda container. He said it is not clear yet

what was inside the bottle, but said he and others believe it may have been dry ice. He said the bottle was tossed into an open-air skylight above the pool from someone on the roof of the building. The man suffered some lacerations to his hand and was treated at the scene by paramedics from the Bend Fire Department. Police have no suspects in the case, which is still under investigation. Charges in the case would likely be assault, manufacture and possession of an explosive device, and reckless endangering, the release said.

Source:

<http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100323/NEWS0107/3230407/1115/RSSNEWSMAP>

53. *March 23, Orlando Theme Parks Examiner* – (Florida) **Disney World bus crash at Epcot theme park entrance injures five, leaves one in serious condition.** As many as eight people are now being reported to have been injured in the crash. A crash Tuesday afternoon involving two buses at Walt Disney World's Epcot theme park has left up to eight people injured, including one who has been transported to the hospital in "very serious condition," according to the Florida Highway Patrol. A helicopter was dispatched to help with victim transportation. Fox Orlando is reporting that one of the bus drivers was the person taken away by helicopter. One bus was reportedly a Disney bus while the other was a Mears tour bus. The Mears bus, which was empty, was rear ended by the Disney vehicle. It was reportedly sitting in a thru lane at the Epcot toll plaza, with the driver outside of the bus. The crash happened at the toll plaza, where buses enter to drop off passengers and cars pay for parking before entering the theme park lot. Orange County fire officials called their response "an extended operation." The crash closed down the theme park toll plaza entrance.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/x-2200-Orlando-Theme-Parks-Examiner~y2010m3d23-Disney-World-bus-crash-at-Epcot-theme-park-entrance-injures-five-leaves-one-in-serious-condition>

54. *March 23, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Bomb prank lands four college students in jail.** Four Chattanooga State Community College students picked the wrong apartments to pull a prank on Monday night and landed themselves in jail. They were arrested after placing plastic bottle bombs that blew up on a doorstep of the Waterford Place Apartment complex on Shallowford Road, next door to the residence of a Hamilton County Sheriff's deputy, according to a Chattanooga Fire Department release. They were charged with possession of an explosive device and reckless endangerment, a felony, he said. The bombs were 2-liter plastic bottles filled with chemicals that cause a gas buildup, making the bottles explode, a fire department spokesman said. The deputy heard the explosion and came outside to find nine potential suspects and called 911 for fire and police response. The students told an official with the fire investigation division, that they "were pulling a prank and had no intention of hurting anyone." Chemicals in the bottles could have seriously injured anyone close to the explosion, the lieutenant told the students.

Source: <http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2010/mar/23/chattanooga-bomb-prank-lands-four-college-students/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

55. *March 23, Sierra Sun* – (California) **Feds still exploring Stampede Reservoir dam height increase.** The federal Bureau of Reclamation is still studying potential safety measures that could raise Stampede Reservoir's dam by 11 feet. The 239-foot tall dam at the reservoir north of Truckee was erected in 1970 and is generally used to regulate water flow for fisheries along the Truckee River and in Pyramid Lake, after running through the Boca Reservoir. The project manager for the Stampede Dam Corrective Actions Study said the bureau is considering raising the dam for extreme flood events. "There is significant population at risk downstream," she said, referring to the Reno/Sparks area, adding that by raising the dam, it could prevent over flow during a 250,000-year flood event. The dam would be raised by building two walls with compacted earth between, she said, and its spillway would also be modified to ensure water flowing out of Stampede does not over tax Boca Reservoir, she said. "Even though we are raising the dam we cannot store additional water — we're just trying to prevent a flood event," she said. The funding for such a project is not assured yet, and the earliest it could get under way would be 2012 or 2013. During that construction, residents would only be affected by the closure of the road across the top of the dam, but other access to Stampede is available.

Source:

<http://www.sierrasun.com/article/20100323/NEWS/100329974/1066&ParentProfile=1051>

56. *March 23, Sierra Sun* – (California) **Martis Creek Dam study continues, no closures expected this summer.** The Army Corps of Engineers will back off on field work this summer on Martis Creek Dam, meaning no closures for the public. The 1970s-era earthen flood-control dam has been ranked by the corps as one of the six riskiest in the country because of the glacial till soil underneath that allows water leakage, and the earthquake faults that appear to run under it — both meaning the dam could fail, sending a wall of water downstream to Reno in a worst-case scenario. The corps has kept the dam gates open throughout its study, keeping water levels extremely low — 4 percent of the total storage as of March 8. This summer the project manager for the corps, said the corps likely will study the results of field work done the past few years, from soil composition to earthquake fault trenching, working toward potential solutions to reduce risks. Previously, the corps had been working under a timeline that involved completion of a Dam Safety Modifications Report by 2014, designing a project by 2016 and construction between 2016 and 2019. "We're looking to accelerate that timeline because of the urgent nature of the project by about a year and a half," he said.

The project has received \$2.4 million for 2010, compared to an anticipated \$3 million, and carried over about \$83,000 from previous years.

Source:

<http://www.sierrasun.com/article/20100323/NEWS/100329966/1066&ParentProfile=1051>

57. *March 22, Minneapolis Finance and Commerce* – (Minnesota) **Rising Mississippi gives St. Paul a chance to test dike, floodwall improvements.** The Mississippi River is rising toward a projected crest of 19.5 feet Wednesday, but St. Paul's downtown airport, which primarily serves corporate aircraft, remains open — thanks to a flood-control system completed in 2009. The 9,300-foot, \$24 million flood-protection project, installed by Flood Control America to protect the airport when the Mississippi hits major flood stage, is getting its first major test this spring. “This is the very first time we’ll actually been able to test the wall against the waters of the Mississippi,” the director of public affairs and marketing for the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) said Monday. The 10-foot-high “deployable floodwall” can be installed in less than a week when high water is expected. The wall is made up of several thousand interlocking aluminum “logs” that are installed between posts attached to a reinforced concrete foundation. When the river rises to the 17-foot level, the wall, held upright by diagonal struts, protects the airport from Mississippi River waters. He said Holman Field has been closed seven times in 70 years, and estimated that each flood event costs MAC and airport users a total of \$7.2 million. Elsewhere in the area, businesses owners say they’re not overly concerned, but are keeping a wary eye on river levels.

Source: <http://www.finance-commerce.com/article.cfm/2010/03/23/Rising-Mississippi-gives-St-Paul-a-chance-to-test-dike-floodwall-improvements>

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