Top Stories

- The South Florida Sun Sentinel reports 15 people, including 7 bankers, were charged with bribery, money laundering, and identity theft for participating in a scheme that resulted in $10 million in fraudulent bank loans. (See item 12)
- According to the Washington Post, shortly before Christmas, federal officials received a tip that a top terrorist was behind a plot to conceal bombs in thermos liners carried aboard planes. (See item 16)

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. **January 13, WFIE 14 Evansville** – (Kentucky) **Two hurt after fire at Hopkins Co. mine.** Two men suffered minor injuries in a fire January 13 at Warrior Coal near Manitou in Hopkins County, Kentucky. According to a release, a crew was drilling on the property around 5 a.m. and hit a pocket of natural gas, causing the fire. Two workers were treated for facial injuries at the Madisonville hospital, but the coal company said those injuries are not serious. The workers were released soon after. The
mine, which is operated by Alliance Coal, did not actually catch fire.

2. January 12, WDIV 4 Detroit – (Michigan) 1 person hurt in natural gas explosion. One person was hurt January 12 during a natural gas explosion at a facility in Columbus, Michigan, the St. Clair County Sheriff’s Office said. Residents within a 5-mile radius of the Blue Water Gas Storage company on Wales Center Road said they first heard a loud boom and then saw a fireball. The company sells natural gas, and stores it in a 2-mile-long cavern underground. A representative for the company said the explosion occurred during a separation of gas and oil, and that the facility’s safety valved kicked in, preventing the fire from spreading until it burned out. The sheriff’s office said the person who was injured suffered non-life-threatening burns. No other details were released.

3. January 12, Eureka Times-Standard – (California) PG&E asking customers to conserve energy after fire at power plant. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) asked customers to conserve energy January 12, as a fire caused the plant to shut down its generators for an unknown amount of time. One of the 10 generators at the Humboldt Bay Power Plant near Eureka, California caught fire January 12. The fire was extinguished around 2:20 p.m., and no one was injured, according to PG&E. The cause of the fire and the damage is still under investigation. “At the request of the fire department, we shut down all the generating units at the plant,” a statement from the company said.

4. January 12, Bloomberg – (Oklahoma) Holly shuts Tulsa units on boiler house malfunction. Holly Corp., an independent U.S. refiner, shut a platformer and a butane splitter at its refinery in Tulsa, Oklahoma, January 12, and is implementing a “controlled partial shutdown” after a malfunction in the boiler house. “The refinery went into emergency mode and is flaring,” a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality said in an e-mail. “No one is hurt, it is just flaring.” The refinery’s steam boilers shut down because of cold weather. The Dallas, Texas-based company did not say when the plant will be returned to service. An investigation is under way to determine the cause of the incident, Holly said. A fire January 11 at Covanta Energy’s Energy-from-Waste plant in Tulsa was related to the Holly boiler problem, a Tulsa Fire Department spokesman said. Holly’s Tulsa refinery is comprised of two plants that are connected via pipeline and can process about 125,000 barrels per day, according to Holly’s Web site.

5. January 12, WPXI 11 Pittsburgh – (Pennsylvania) Hazmat crews contain leak at Washington County gas station. Hazardous materials crews were called to a Washington County, Pennsylvania gas station January 12 after a fuel leak in the parking lot. A journalist reported a tanker truck had delivered gas to a BP station in
South Strabane Township when about 100 gallons of fuel seeped out of an underground holding tank. Firefighters and haz-mat crews closed off the parking lot and alerted nearby businesses as they cleaned up the mess. The chief of the South Strabane Fire Department said the situation could have been a lot worse had crews not responded quickly. The department of environment protection is checking nearby to see if any gasoline leaked into storm sewers.

6. **January 12, Livermore Patch** – (California) **Cops nab two suspected copper thieves.** Two men were arrested January 8 on suspicion of theft of copper wire from utility boxes in Livermore, California, the Livermore Police Department said. The two men were apprehended at 5 a.m. near National Drive and Brisa Street after police followed up a report of suspicious people in the area, a police sergeant said. A patrol officer saw the subjects walking and, upon further investigation, discovered a stash of copper wire suspected to be from nearby utility boxes. Area street lights were dark at the time, the sergeant said. Copper theft is a crime trend the FBI said threatens the nation’s infrastructure, and which a U.S. Department of Energy report said costs the country $1 billion per year. The estimated cost of repairs for the weekend theft is between $5,200 and $10,400, a spokesman said.
Source: http://livermore.patch.com/articles/cops-nab-two-suspected-copper-thieves

**Chemical Industry Sector**

7. **January 13, Watertown Daily Times** – (New York) **Chemical truck rolls; no substances leak out.** A Slack Chemical Co. truck carrying corrosive chemicals rolled down a 20-foot embankment in Wanakena, New York, January 12, on a snow-covered Route 3. The truck was carrying 300 gallons of sulfuric acid and 700 gallons of sodium hydroxide, and the potential for the chemicals to leak and cause environmental damage raised concerns, the St. Lawrence County Emergency Services director said. None of the chemicals or diesel fuel leaked out. The tractor-trailer, which overturned about 7:30 a.m. near County Route 61, landed in an area containing a wetland and a nearby creek. The county’s hazardous materials team was placed on standby, but was not activated when confirmation came in that no leakage had occurred. Firefighters on the scene had taken extra precautions because of the chemicals in the truck. A Slack Chemical emergency response crew was assisting firefighters at the scene. Route 3 remained closed until about 3 p.m.
Source: http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20110113/NEWS05/301139965

8. **January 12, NY1** – (New York) **Crown Heights factory workers flee from chemical explosion.** Factory workers in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, New York, braved the cold January 12 after a chemical explosion forced officials to evacuate their workplace. Fire officials said someone mixed an acid into tanks of bleach stored inside industrial drums at the Sea Crest Linen Supply company, leading to an explosion just before noon. Bleach is a commonly used ingredient in the manufacturing of linens. Several workers
were given oxygen at the scene, but no serious injuries were reported. Some of the roughly 200 employees working at the business, which supplies linens to restaurants and hotels, described a loud explosion before they left the building. Following the explosion, management aired out the building to get rid of strong chemical smells and dangerous levels of vapor, and workers were able to return to the building by the end of the day.
Source: [http://brooklyn.ny1.com/content/top_stories/132093/crown-heights-factory-workers-flee-from-chemical-explosion](http://brooklyn.ny1.com/content/top_stories/132093/crown-heights-factory-workers-flee-from-chemical-explosion)

**Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector**

9. **January 13, Richmond Times-Dispatch** – (Virginia) **North Anna nuke unit returns to full power after repairs.** With repairs complete, Dominion Virginia Power has returned to full power its Unit 2 nuclear reactor at the North Anna power plant in Louisa County, Virginia. Figures from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) showed Unit 2 reached 100 percent of operating capacity January 12. The unit was powered down to 84 percent of capacity January 7 after leaks were discovered in a water-condensing unit. Unit 1, the other reactor at North Anna, some 45 miles northwest of Richmond, has remained at full power.

**Critical Manufacturing Sector**

10. **January 13, WUPW 36 Toledo** – (Ohio) **Fire at North Star BlueScope Steel.** Fire crews were sent to the North Star BlueScope Steel facility in Delta, Ohio, January 13. The Fulton County Sheriff’s office told FOX Toledo News, four fire departments were automatically dispatched to the facility on Fulton County Road 9 and Airport Highway just after 8:30 a.m. The vice president of human resources for North Star said lubricating grease ignited and set a small storage room on fire. He said employees most likely could have extinguished the fire themselves, but as a precaution the fire department was called. Minor damage was contained to the storage area. No injuries were reported and production was shut down for a short amount of time. North Star has 350 full-time employees. The facility manufactures flat rolled steel for automobile manufacturing applications, pipe and tube makers, sheet steel, and other applications.

**Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report
Banking and Finance Sector

11. January 13, Associated Press – (California) College leader charged with stealing from students. A Southern California college program director has been charged with using a bogus bank account to steal $500,000 from students. Prosecutors said the 56-year-old suspect is being held on $3 million bail after he pleaded not guilty January 10 to two forgery counts and two identity theft counts, all of them felonies. The Inland Valley Daily Bulletin said the suspect is the director of Walnut’s Mt. San Antonio College fire technology program. A Los Angeles County sheriff’s detective said the suspect overcharged students for classes and deposited the money in a fraudulent bank account using Mt. San Antonio College’s tax identification number. Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2011/01/13/state/n071325S79.DTL

12. January 12, South Florida Sun Sentinel – (Florida) Broward assistant principal, former sheriff’s aide, 7 bankers among those ensnared in federal bank fraud probe. A Broward Schools assistant principal, a former sheriff’s investigative aide and seven Broward and Palm Beach County, Florida, bankers were ensnared in a sweeping undercover FBI investigation into alleged widespread bank fraud. A total of 15 defendants were charged January 12 in a scheme federal authorities said marks a new twist in the defrauding of South Florida banks while featuring bribery, money laundering, and identity theft. Using tactics commonly seen in home mortgage fraud cases, people fraudulently obtained small business loans and lines of credit by bribing corrupt bankers and submitting phony financial documents, a U.S. attorney said. The official who heads the FBI in South Florida said he anticipates dozens more people will be arrested on similar criminal charges in the coming months. The 2-year investigation centered on a man who ran a company called Palm Beach Business Consultants. The FBI said this suspect helped secure more than $10 million in fraudulent loans from 10 area banks. Source: http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2011-01-12/news/fl-correa-bank-fraud-20110112_1_bank-fraud-fraudulent-loans-identity-theft

13. January 11, Washington Post – (Maryland) Robbery at White Oak credit union. Montgomery County, Maryland police are investigating a January 8 robbery at the Mid-Atlantic Federal Credit Union in White Oak, authorities said January 11. Two male suspects entered the Mid-Atlantic Federal Credit Union at 11140 New Hampshire Avenue at 10:42 a.m. wielding handguns and announcing a robbery, police said. Montgomery County Police detectives and the FBI are investigating the robbery. Source: http://voices.washingtonpost.com/crime-scene/montgomery/moco-robbery-investigated.html?hpid=newswell

14. January 11, United Press International – (National) FBI: Bank heists rose in third quarter. U.S. bank robberies increased in the third quarter of 2010, the FBI said January 11. The bureau reported 1,325 bank holdups, an increase from 1,212 in the
same quarter of 2009. Money was taken in 90 percent of the incidents, totaling more than $9.3 million. Nearly $1.4 million was recovered and returned to financial institutions. Robbers most often struck on Fridays and between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Acts of violence accompanied 4 percent of the holdups, resulting in 4 deaths, 21 injuries and 9 people being taken hostage, the bureau said. The FBI said the South had the greatest number of reported holdups with 482.


15. January 11, U.S. Department of Justice – (New York) Queens attorney pleads guilty in Manhattan federal court to participating in $23 million mortgage fraud scheme. The United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York announced that a real estate attorney pled guilty January 10 before a U.S. District Judge in Manhattan federal court to a seven-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to commit bank and wire fraud, and six counts of bank fraud, in connection with a scheme that defrauded banks out of more than $23 million in home mortgage loans. The suspect made hundreds of thousands of dollars in illicit profits from the scheme, in which he worked closely with corrupt loan officers of GuyAmerican Funding, a mortgage brokerage firm in Queens, New York. The suspect is the ninth defendant convicted of participating in this mortgage fraud scheme.

Source: http://newyork.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/nyfo011111.htm

For another story, see item 42

[Return to top]

Transportation Sector

16. January 13, Washington Post – (National) TSA tip: Suspect planned thermos bomb. Shortly before Christmas, federal officials received a tip that terrorists might be concealing bombs in thermos liners carried aboard planes, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) head said January 13. Addressing an American Bar Association committee in Washington D.C., he said he got a tip December 23 that a 28-year-old Saudi national who is on that country’s most-wanted list and was tied to the plot to explode a bomb disguised as toner cartridge on a cargo plane, was behind the plot to make a thermos bomb. “Anyone who has traveled with a thermos since then has been getting more screening,” the TSA head said. He also said he expected modification to controversial airport scanners and pat-down procedures this year to address privacy concerns.

Source: http://voices.washingtonpost.com/dr-gridlock/2011/01/16/tsa_says_screeners_to_be_modif.html

17. January 13, Associated Press – (National) New England digs out from winter storm. The winter storm that crippled the South earlier this week joined forces with a system from the Midwest as it moved over the Northeast January 12. The storms announced their arrival in New England with claps of thunder and record amounts of
snowfall in some cities. Observers in the Berkshires in western Massachusetts reported as much as 3 feet of snow. Many major Massachusetts highways were cleared, but many secondary roads remained slick and mountains of snow obstructed views at many intersections. Atlanta, Georgia meanwhile, was still struggling to recover 4 days after it got its share of the storm. Subfreezing temperatures kept ice on the roads in a region not used to needing fleets of salt trucks or plows. Georgia officials reported progress in clearing highways, but many streets remained slippery and schools were closed for a fourth day across the Atlanta metropolitan area. Airlines canceled more than 3,000 flights January 12, mostly in the snowy Northeast, but they said travelers would not be stuck for days as they were after a Christmas weekend storm. The Federal Aviation Administration reported that all major Northeast airports were operating normally January 13.


18. **January 13, Philadelphia Inquirer** – (National) **Storm cuts Amtrak service from New York to Boston.** Amtrak suspended service between New York City and Boston, Massachusetts January 12 after a winter storm that hammered New England, snapping overhead power lines through Connecticut and Massachusetts. “For all intents and purposes, service won’t resume until Thursday morning,” an Amtrak spokesman said January 13. Several trees fell across the tracks between New Haven, Connecticut, and Sharon, Massachusetts, the spokesman said. Crews worked through the day to repair the lines and remove debris from the tracks. South of New York, including back and forth to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, there were “no real problems,” the spokesman said.


19. **January 13, WGRZ 2 Buffalo** – (New York) **Deadly Amtrak collision in Dunkirk.** An Amtrak passenger train involved in a fatal accident in Dunkirk, New York, January 12 is back in service and headed to its final destination, New York City. A tractor trailer collided with an Amtrak passenger train on Middle Rd., killing the driver. The train was carrying 236 passengers and 16 crew members from Chicago, Illinois at the time of the crash. No one on the train was injured. The truck was carrying chickens, and was heading to the Purina plant in Dunkirk. Witnesses told police they saw the truck drive around a down railroad crossing gate right before the crash. The train was delayed for about 5 hours, as Amtrak worked to switch out the lead locomotive before the train could continue on to the Buffalo train station.


20. **January 12, Associated Press** – (Maryland) **100K in drugs found on cruise ship docked in Md.** Drug-sniffing dogs found nearly $100,000 worth of cocaine and heroin aboard a Royal Caribbean cruise ship in a federal investigation of an employee smuggling ring. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) said the search January 8 uncovered 1.5 pounds of heroin and nearly 1 pound of cocaine aboard the ship Enchantment of the Seas. The ship was searched while docked in Baltimore, Maryland, and the drugs were found in a compartment that is only accessible to employees. Last month, three employees of the ship were charged with conspiracy to import drugs after
authorities said one of them was caught onshore with similar amounts of cocaine and heroin. Law enforcement officials would not say whether the new drug seizure is linked to that case, and no further arrests have been made.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap_travel/20110112/ap_tr_ge/us_travel_brief_cruise_ship_drugs
For more stories, see items 4 and 7

Postal and Shipping Sector

21. January 13, Associated Press – (District of Columbia) Another suspicious package at DC post office. A fire department spokesman said a suspicious package reported at a mail facility in northeast Washington, D.C. January 13 was not a threat. A District of Columbia fire department spokesman said firefighters gave the all-clear during the afternoon of January 13. Authorities in Washington and Maryland are still investigating three packages that ignited last week, one at a mail facility in Washington and two others in Maryland. An official with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service said the facility involved in the January 13 suspicious package report is not the same one where a package ignited last week. Source: http://wmal.com/Article.asp?id=2077410

22. January 13, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City – (Utah) Emergency crews respond to white powder scare at SLC business. A haz-mat team and the FBI responded to a report of some white powder that was sent to a Salt Lake City, Utah business January 12. Police said they received a report of a suspicious envelope containing white powder that was opened at a business on 2100 South 4220 West. Emergency dispatch officials said seven adults and two children in the business that sells handbags were told to “shelter in place” or stay inside the business during the investigation. Crews later determined that there was no powder and cleared the scene. Source: http://www.abc4.com/mostpopular/story/Emergency-crews-respond-to-white-powder-scare-at/pRsI5VIKak6yve2VGXYjAg.cspx

Agriculture and Food Sector

23. January 13, Seer Press News – (International) 96 arrested as China cracks down on melamine-tainted milk. Chinese authorities have arrested 96 individuals using Melamine-contaminated milk powder in various products, according to China’s Xinhua News Agency. The arrested individuals were producing dairy-related products using milk powder which contained up to 500 times the allowable trace of Melamine. In 2008, Melamine-contaminated milk killed not less than 6 babies and poisoned about 300,000 babies in China fostering widespread distrust about products from the Asian
country. In November 2009, China sentenced to death two men involved in the controversy. According to Xinhua, 2,132 tons of Melamine-tainted milk powder was seized by Chinese authorities in continuing operations against contaminated milk. Thirty-eight of those arrested are due in court as “they were found to have used melamine-tainted milk powder as raw material to produce dairy products or sell such dairy products,” according to a Chinese report cited by Xinhua. It also added that the possible cause of the Melamine contamination were “loopholes in the quality control system of dairy products.” Reuters reported milk from Gansu and Qinghai provinces in China’s northwest has yielded extremely high concentrations of melamine. Xinhua noted 17 out of the 96 arrested have been convicted, with 2 sentenced to life in prison. Source: http://seerpress.com/96-arrested-as-china-cracks-down-on-melamine-tainted-milk/22065/

24. January 13, Sarasota Herald Tribune – (Florida) Cold eats into Florida’s orange crop. Federal officials are predicting that Florida’s orange crop will be at least 2 percent smaller as a result of the freezing temperatures in the region during December. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is predicting Florida will produce 140 million, 90-pound boxes of oranges — the standard measure in the industry. That is a reduction of 3 million boxes, with the biggest hit — 2 million boxes — to the crop of Valencias. “The new estimate reflects fruit size which was smaller than anticipated and some preliminary effects of December’s cold weather,” said the chief executive of the Florida Citrus Mutual, the state’s largest growers organization. The USDA’s estimate for grapefruit remained unchanged at 19.6 million boxes. Much of Florida was again under a freeze warning January 12 into January 13, with temperatures expected to fall below 32 degrees for at least 3 hours. Citrus fruit requires at least 28 degrees for 4 hours to freeze.

25. January 11, London Daily Mail – (California; International) 2 Japanese men arrested for smuggling live turtles into US in cereal boxes. Two Japanese men have been arrested at Los Angeles International Airport in California after attempting to smuggle more than 50 live turtles into the United States. The men, both from Osaka, were arrested January 7 as part of a investigation into live animal smuggling known as “Operation Flying Turtle.” The pair had hidden turtles and tortoises in snack food boxes inside a suitcase and could face up to 21 years in prison if convicted. A 39-year-old man and a 49-year-old man are charged in a two-count criminal complaint that alleges one count of illegally importing wildlife into the United States, a smuggling offense that carries a statutory maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison. The men are also charged with one count of violating the Endangered Species Act, a misdemeanor that carries a statutory maximum penalty of 1 year in prison. The pair were part of a smuggling ring that officers had infiltrated in recent months. The U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Customs and Borders Protection, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement were all involved in Operation Flying Turtle, which began in 2010 after U.S. Fish and Wildlife agents learned of a live animal-smuggling ring.
26. January 13, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – (National) **Facilities across the southeast ordered to stop discharging and comply with Clean Water Act.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued Administrative Orders (AOs) against seven entities in North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, and South Carolina during the last quarter of 2010 for violations of the Clean Water Act (CWA). Three entities were cited for alleged stormwater-related violations. Polluted stormwater runoff is a leading cause of impairment to the nearly 40 percent of surveyed U.S. water bodies which do not meet water quality standards. The entities cited and their associated violations include: YDV, Inc., for violations at the Compass Pointe Phases 2, 3 and 11 sites in Leland, North Carolina; Marion Retail Investments, LLC, for violations at its Grandview Station construction site in Marion, North Carolina; and Shelby County Schools, for violations at the Shelby County Administration Building in Arlington, Tennessee. EPA issued AOs requiring violators to conduct a variety of remediation activities, including revising and implementing Construction Pollution Prevention Plans and Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plans; installing and maintaining Best Management Practices; conducting adequate self-inspections; ceasing sediment discharges; and addressing areas where sediment had been discharged. The City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was cited for unauthorized discharges of sewage from the wastewater collection and transmission system. Licking River Resources, Inc. and Clintwood Elkhorn Mining Company were each cited for unauthorized discharges of wastewater associated with surface mining and/or coal processing and preparation plants in West Liberty and Phyllis, Kentucky, respectively. EPA issued an AO for violations of the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations requirements of the CWA at a dairy operation known as Lee Mayer #1 in Newberry, South Carolina. Source: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/CD333870F958356F85257817005F3309](http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/CD333870F958356F85257817005F3309)

27. January 12, Morganton News Herald – (North Carolina) **Water restored after breaks.** Several burst pipes in Morganton, North Carolina, kept city employees busy through much of the weekend and required residents to boil water until January 10. Water was restored by 6 p.m. January 9 after some residents and businesses had been without water for 14 hours, according to the water resources director. The three breaks were at Carbon City Road, Burkemont Avenue, and Shore Drive, he said. Freezing temperatures likely caused all three breaks. The worst of the breaks was a pipe on Carbon City Road that burst at about 4 a.m. January 9. An 8-inch pipe running across U.S. 70 to Air Park Drive was leaking on both sides of the 5-lane road. The pipe is 10 feet underground and equipment kept freezing up because of sub-freezing temperatures.
The pump used to drain the water also was working slowly because of the weather. In the meantime, the 1.8 million gallons of water that was stored in the city’s water tower leaked out onto the pavement, along with residual water sitting in the pipes. This caused a risk of contamination, as it stirs up sediment that comes to rest in pipes and can also lead to back siphonage. Residents were asked to boil their water until 11 a.m. January 10 as a precaution. The city also lost about $1,000 in revenue for every 1 million gallons of water lost. There were never more than a few dozen residents without water, and everyone has had their service restored.


28. **January 11, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – (National) EPA issues guidance for enhanced monitoring of hexavalent chromium in drinking water.** Several weeks ago, the EPA administrator committed to address hexavalent chromium (also known as chromium-6) in drinking water by issuing guidance to all water systems on how to assess the prevalence of the contaminant. On January 11, the agency is delivering on that promise and has issued guidance recommending how public water systems might enhance monitoring and sampling programs specifically for hexavalent chromium. The recommendations are in response to emerging scientific evidence that chromium-6 could pose health concerns if consumed over long periods of time. The enhanced monitoring guidance provides recommendations on where the systems should collect samples and how often they should be collected, along with analytical methods for laboratory testing. Systems that perform the enhanced monitoring will be able to better inform their consumers about any presence of chromium-6 in their drinking water, evaluate the degree to which other forms of chromium are transformed into chromium-6, and assess the degree to which existing treatment affects the levels of chromium-6 in drinking water.

Source: http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/93a75b03149d30b08525781500600f62!OpenDocument

**Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

29. **January 13, New Hampshire Union Leader – (New Hampshire) Scandinavian gamers hack NH medical center to play Call of Duty; compromise records of 230,000.** Some Scandinavian gamers hacked a server for Seacoast Radiology in Rochester, New Hampshire, to get more bandwidth, a move that gave them access to the personal information of more than 230,000 patients. The gamers preyed on the server to play “Call of Duty: Black Ops,” said a spokeswoman for ID Experts, an outside security firm brought in to deal with the data breach. “Based on the investigation, there’s no belief that any personal information was compromised in any way,” she said. “They were not hacking in to get any medical billing codes or any personal information or anything like that.” The radiology practice discovered the hack November 12 after IT officials noticed bandwidth was being leached and immediately
shut off access to the server. They notified about 231,400 patients affected by the data breach in letters sent out January 11. The affected server included names, addresses, Social Security numbers, dates of birth, medical procedure codes, diagnosis codes, and billing information, but misuse of that information is unlikely, according to an investigation done following the breach. The server did not include radiology reports, images, or banking information. The spokeswoman said the gamers did not specifically target Seacoast Radiology. The breach has been reported to the federal Department of Health and Human Services, and the state attorney general’s office.

Source: http://www.unionleader.com/article.aspx?headline=Scandinavian+gamers+hack+NH+medical+center+to+play+Call+of+Duty;+compromise+records+of+230,000&articleId=6add3fd7-0f3f-4680-aa61-232503e7eaca

30. January 13, Kennewick Tri-City Herald – (Washington) Kadlec computer servers hacked. Officials from Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland, Washington, announced January 12 patients are being notified that one of the hospital’s computer servers containing brain scan and other patient studies was hacked in September. Files housed on the server included information with a patient’s name, birth date, age, gender, medical record number, and doctor’s name. Kadlec officials first discovered the unauthorized access during routine monitoring of computer network backups November 11, according to a news release. Kadlec immediately removed the server from service and hired a national company that specializes in computer security to investigate the cause and scope of the breach. The analysis confirmed there was unauthorized access to one of Kadlec’s 225 servers sometime around September 15. Forensic experts found no evidence that patient data actually was viewed, compromised, or removed from the system. As a precaution, Kadlec is sending a letter to all patients whose information was on the files on the affected server. Hospital officials said it has added significant security measures to Kadlec’s servers to help prevent future breaches.


31. January 12, CNN – (Arizona) Hospital personnel fired for accessing records of Tucson victims. Three clinical support staff members and a contracted nurse at University Medical Center (UMC) in Tucson, Arizona, have been fired “for inappropriately accessing confidential medical records,” a spokeswoman for the hospital said January 12. The spokeswoman said the incident was related to the January 8 shootings at a Tucson supermarket that wounded 13 — including a U.S. Representative from Arizona — and killed 6. But she would not offer further details and did not say which patients’ records were accessed. “The hospital has terminated three clinical support staff members this week for inappropriately accessing confidential electronic medical records, in accordance with UMC’s zero tolerance policy on patient privacy violations,” the hospital said in a statement. “A contracted nurse also was terminated by the nurse’s employer. We are not aware of any confidential patient information being released publicly,” the statement said. The
hospital said it has notified the families of patients whose information was accessed. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/01/12/arizona.hospital.records/index.html

32. January 11, WCMH 4 Columbus – (Ohio) **Computer theft put patients’ info at risk.** A computer theft at Grant Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio, could put thousands of patients’ information at risk, the hospital revealed recently. The hospital discovered the theft in November and realized that personal health information on patients treated at the hospital between 2008 and November 5, 2010 were affected. Hospital officials said the worker involved in the theft was fired. Grant Medical Center claims the information is inaccessible to anyone except skilled computer technicians. Source: http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2011/jan/11/computer-theft-put-patients-info-risk-ar-358883/

**Government Facilities Sector**

33. January 13, Newser – (National) **Calif. man busted for threat to kill Congressman.** A California man has been arrested for making threatening phone calls to a Democratic U.S. Representative over his stance on extending tax cuts. “Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, or George Washington — if any of them had ever met [the Representative], they would all blow his brains out. They’d shoot him in the head,” the suspect said in a late-night call in December to the lawmaker’s Seattle, Washington office, according to an FBI transcript. The suspect stated his real name and address at the start of the calls, officials noted. The suspect — who has a $3 million trust fund and a history of threatening lawmakers — accused the Representative and other Democrats of wanting to take his money and give it to “losers,” the Christian Science Monitor reported. “I’ll round them up,” he said, according to transcripts. “I’ll kill them. I’ll kill his friends, I’ll kill his family.” FBI agents said the arrest was in the works long before the shootings in Tuscon, Arizona, January 8. The suspect, who told agents he had been drinking when he made the calls, faces one count of threatening a federal official. Source: http://www.newser.com/story/109611/calif-man-busted-for-threat-to-kill-congressman.html

34. January 13, WXOW 19 La Crosse – (Wisconsin) **Police investigating threat against Gov. Walker, Wis. senators.** The FBI, Wisconsin Capitol Police, and local law enforcement are investigating a threat January 12 against a number of Wisconsin public officials, including the governor, the lieutenant governor, and two state senators. The senate chief clerk sent a memo to all state senate offices informing them of the investigation. He said officials are “taking steps to address the threat.” The incident comes 4 days after a U.S. Representative of Arizona was shot. In the memo, the chief clerk writes that every senator should be vigilant about their safety and the safety of other public officials, and to take any threat seriously. The memo also asks that they monitor the Internet for any mention of senators’ names. The names of the threatened senators have not been released. According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, three sources familiar with the matter said the threat was also made against the governor and
lieutenant. The sources also said the threat was made in an Internet posting.

35. **January 13, KGMI 790 AM Bellingham** – (Washington) **Whatcom County Courthouse evacuated Wednesday.** The Whatcom County Courthouse in Bellingham, Washington, was evacuated at about 10:30 a.m. January 12 following the discovery of a suspicious package. The sheriff said the courthouse reopened after the bomb squad was called in to check it out. “In an abundance of caution, we requested that the Bellingham bomb unit come and examine the device,” he said. “And as a precaution, we evacuated both visitors and employees from the Whatcom County Courthouse.” The areas surrounding the courthouse were blocked off, and the Whatcom County Jail was on lockdown during the evacuation. The package was found on the second floor near the lunchroom. The sheriff said he is not convinced it was placed there unintentionally.
Source: http://kgmi.com/Whatcom-County-Courthouse-evacuated-Wednesday/8976538

36. **January 12, KUSA 9 Denver** – (Colorado) **Government offices locked down after threat.** Several government buildings went on lockdown January 12 after police said a mental health facility in Longmont, Colorado, received a “threat of violence.” Longmont Police said they took the threat to the Longmont Mental Health Facility in the St. Vrain Complex seriously and locked quite a few offices down as they looked for the person who made the threat. Police arrested a 49-year-old Longmont man a short time later. He is suspected of making the threat. No injuries were reported. The St. Vrain Complex at 529 Coffman Street in Longmont was slated to be shut down for the remainder of January 12. Offices affected include aging services, health and human services, mental health, motor vehicle, and public health. Boulder County officials expected all normal operations to resume January 13.

Emergency Services Sector

37. **January 12, Philadelphia Inquirer** – (Pennsylvania) **Site linked to fired sheriff’s worker hacked.** On January 11, hackers blocked a Web site for bidding on sheriff sales in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, replacing it for a few hours with a button that, when clicked, led to a picture of the Albanian flag. The Web site SheriffSale.com is owned by Reach Communications Specialists, the public-relations firm recently fired by the new acting sheriff. Potential buyers can go to the site to view photos and descriptions of properties going to sheriff sale and to place bids online. Reach was co-founded by the brother of an employee of the Philadelphia Sheriff’s Office. The employee was also terminated the week of January 3. The city controller has raised questions about Reach, which received millions of dollars from the sheriff’s office without formal contracts. The Web site was back online later that day. One of the
owners of Reach said it was too early to determine if any sensitive financial data was stolen.

Source: http://www.philly.com/dailynews/local/20110112_Site_linked_to_fired_Sheriff_s_worker_hacked.html

38. January 12, Tampa Tribune – (Florida) Man accused of pointing laser at Polk sheriff’s helicopter indicted. A Lakeland, Florida man authorities said pointed a laser light at a Polk County, Florida sheriff’s helicopter in November is facing up to 20 years in federal prison. A federal grand jury January 11 indicted the 58-year-old man on a charge of attempting to interfere with the authorized operation of an aircraft “with intent to endanger the safety of any person and with a reckless disregard for human life.” Polk deputies were using the helicopter the night of November 21 to track a suicidal man who fled from his family. As the helicopter flew above the Island Walk subdivision, officials said, a green laser from the ground flashed into the cockpit. The green light caused the pilot and flight observer to become disoriented, the sheriff’s office said. The light was so strong that it made the night-vision equipment useless, causing the pilot and flight observer to have difficulty seeing. They had to abort the mission, the sheriff’s office said. After determining that the suspect was responsible, deputies questioned him, and he said he used the laser because he was tired of hearing the helicopter’s noise.


For more stories, see items 35, 36, 43, and 47

[Return to top]

Information Technology Sector

39. January 13, Softpedia – (International) Critical security update released for Google Chrome. Chrome 8.0.552.334 was released as a security update for the stable channel of Google’s increasingly popular browser and contains fixes for a flurry of vulnerabilities. In total, there were 16 security issues patched, 2 of which were rated with medium risk, 13 with high, and 1 with critical. The critical flaw is a stale pointer in speech handling and its discovery is credited to a regular Chrome security contributor.


40. January 13, Softpedia – (International) Adobe will allow deleting Flash cookies from within browsers. Adobe has been working with browser vendors to develop a way of deleting Flash Player local shared objects (LSO), also known as Flash cookies, directly from browsers. Local shared objects are part of the local storage feature that rich Internet applications can use to store various settings or cached items. Security researchers have warned since several years ago that local storage can be abused for
user tracking purposes. Flash LSOs, in particular, can be used to re-spawn tracking cookies. For example, a Web site can store a unique identifier in a plain text cookie and a LSO. If the user deletes the cookie through the browser controls and revisits the Web site, the ID can be read from the LSO used to recreate the cookie.


41. **January 13, H Security – (International)** Wireshark updates address vulnerabilities. The Wireshark development team has released version 1.2.14 and 1.4.3 of its open source, cross-platform network protocol analyzer. According to the developers, the security updates address a high-risk vulnerability (CVE-2010-4538) that could allow a remote attacker to initiate a denial of service attack or possibly execute arbitrary code on a victim’s system. Affecting both the 1.2.x and 1.4.x branches of Wireshark, the issue is reportedly caused by a buffer overflow in ENTTEC (epan/dissectors/packet-enttec.c) — the vulnerability is said to be triggered by injecting a specially crafted ENTTEC DMX packet with Run Length Encoding compression. A buffer overflow issue in MAC-LTE has also been resolved in both versions. In version 1.4.3, a vulnerability in the ASN.1 BER dissector that could have caused Wireshark to exit prematurely has been corrected.


42. **January 12, Softpedia – (International)** Fake Miles & More emails lead to Zbot drive-by download. Security researchers warn about fake e-mails purporting to come from the Miles & More frequent flyer program and leading users to a Zbot drive-by download website. The rogue e-mails bear a subject of “ITINENERARY RECEIPT” and have the header spoofed to appear as originating from a memberservices[dot]miles-and-more[dot]com address. The contained message suggests users’ credit cards were charged without their knowledge. “Thanks for the purchase! Booking number: LVSN50. Your credit card has been charged for $493.67. Please print PASSENGER ITINENERARY RECEIPT by logging into your Miles account by clicking the link below,” the e-mails read. According to researchers from BitDefender who analyzed the attack, the link leads to a page on a religious Web site that was most likely compromised. The page contains hidden iframes loading the Neosploit exploit pack from a third-party server. The toolkit performs several checks to determine the version of popular applications installed on the visitor’s computer and serves the appropriate exploit. If successful, the exploit will silently download and execute a generic Trojan downloader which will install a variant of the ZeuS information stealing Trojan.

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

Commercial Facilities Sector

43. **January 13, KDAT 7 Albuquerque** – (New Mexico) **Packed arena evacuated during Lobos game.** Thousands of basketball fans were forced out of The Pit arena in Albuquerque, New Mexico, during a January 12 game after someone pulled the fire alarm. With just one second left in the first half, a fan pulled the fire alarm and forced the mass evacuation of the arena. Firefighters told Action 7 News there were no signs of smoke or fire. This is the second evacuation this year for the historic arena. At a previous game, a fire in the kitchen forced an evacuation, but nobody was hurt. The Pit has also had several fire issues after its multimillion-dollar renovation. There is currently no smoke evacuation system in place, which means the arena is not up to fire code. Last weekend, fans were locked out of The Pit because the fire marshal saw that nobody was manning the fire control panel.


44. **January 12, Toledo Blade** – (Ohio) **Michigan man charged for bringing gun into Islamic Center school.** A Michigan man whose vehicle ran out of gas along southbound Interstate 75 in Perrysburg Township, Ohio, has been charged with the illegal conveyance of a firearm into a school safety zone after he entered the nearby Islamic Center of Greater Toledo during the lunch hour. No shots were fired and nobody was injured during the incident January 11, police said. No threats were made, officials said. The 26-year-old man, of Livonia, Michigan, who is a naturalized citizen, was charged with the fifth-degree felony and was being held in the Wood County jail on a $50,000 bond, a Perrysburg Township Police sergeant said January 12. The suspect was carrying a loaded handgun when he entered the Islamic Center. A teacher saw a man enter the center where 35 students attend classes, and the teacher escorted him to the center’s secretary, who immediately sensed something was wrong, a spokesperson for the Islamic Center said. The staff ushered him out of the building. “Teachers were told to lock the doors,” and 911 was called. The center’s maintenance
employee followed the man out of the building. Nobody at the center realized the man had a gun. There was no resistance from the man when police arrived, and there was no drama and no threats.
Source: http://toledoblade.com/article/20110112/NEWS02/110119814/0/SPORTS16

45. January 12, San Diego Union-Tribune – (California) **East County Wal-Mart reopened after bomb threat.** A Wal-Mart store in unincorporated El Cajon, California, was evacuated for about 2 hours January 12 due to a bomb threat, the sheriff’s department said. A man called the store on Camino Canada near Los Coches Road at 5:49 p.m. and in whispering voice said, “There is a bomb in the store,” then hung up, a sheriff’s lieutenant said. Store officials called authorities at 6:04 p.m. The store was searched, but no device was found. The store reopened about 8 p.m.

46. January 12, Fargo Inforum – (North Dakota) **Synagogue says threat prompts FBI probe.** The FBI is investigating a threatening voice mail left at Fargo, North Dakota’s synagogue. A caller from a Florida-based area code left the phone message at Temple Beth El the week of January 3, promising a “special package” and mentioning jihad, according to Fargo police. The president of Temple Beth El said synagogue officials told the Jewish Community Relations Council in Minneapolis about the threat, and the organization informed the FBI’s Minneapolis office. She said federal agents are conducting an investigation. She also said she did not recall Temple Beth El getting any similar threats before.
Source: http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/304722/group/homepage/

[Return to top]

**National Monuments and Icons Sector**

47. January 13, Corpus Christi Caller-Times – (Texas) **Padre Island National Seashore drug, immigration problems spike, letter says.** Federal authorities reported a dramatic increase in drug trafficking and illegal immigration at the Padre Island National Seashore in Texas. In a December letter, the park superintendent said the increase in smuggling over the last few years posed an increasing threat to visitor and staff safety. The park rangers added six new officers to combat problems, the letter said. He said his letter referred to drugs, contraband, and illegal immigration, but he said he did not have specific data or case information. The letter, sent to government agencies and members of the public as part of a environmental impact study, asked for public comment on the National Park Services’ plans to build a new building for park rangers and other law enforcement officers at the seashore. The new building could enhance safety, the letter said. The 14-member park ranger staff currently work out of a trailer after a fire destroyed its previous building in 2005. The new building would be built in the spot the trailer sits.
48. January 13, Boulder Daily Camera – (Colorado) **Boulder County crews contain small wildfire on Peewink Mountain ignited by slash pile.** Boulder County firefighters in Colorado have contained a small wildfire that broke out January 13 between the areas burned last fall by the massive Fourmile Fire and the small Peewink Mountain Fire that sparked a week later, according to the Boulder County Sheriff’s Office. Around 6:10 a.m., sheriff’s officials reported over the police scanner that “most of the major fire is knocked down. We’ll be in mop-up stage.” According to a sheriff’s department news release, it is believed the fire started around 3 a.m. in the 8500 block of Sugarloaf Road after a previous slash pile burn on U.S. Forest Service property reignited and spread. A sergeant said the fire in the Peewink Mountain area was a half-acre in size and that no structures were threatened. Twenty to 30 firefighters from the Fourmile, Sugarloaf, and Nederland fire departments, as well as Boulder County Emergency Management and the U.S. Forest Service, were on scene. 

49. January 12, WSAV 3 Savannah – (Georgia) **Smoke alert due to Fort Stewart forest fire.** Officials issued an alert January 12 due to a forest fire burning on the northeast side of Fort Stewart, Georgia. Fort Stewart forestry officials said the fire is in a training area bordering Bryan and Chatham County. They said the smoke can be seen in those areas and may extend to Richmond Hill and parts of Bryan and Chatham counties. Crews have created a fire break in an effort to minimize the damage. 

**Dams Sector**

50. January 13, RTTNews – (International) **EU blames Hungary for wrongly classifying red mud that caused disaster.** The European Commission has blamed the government of Hungary for misleading it by wrongly classifying the burst-out alumina plant that spilled toxic sludge with devastating consequences last year as “non-hazardous.” Ten people died after a reservoir at Ajkai Timfoldgyar alumina plant in Veszprem County burst sending out a torrent of toxic sludge that wreaked havoc in villages and towns between Ajka and Devecser October 4. More than 150 people suffered burns from the hazardous liquid, and hundreds of families were evacuated from the region. An estimated 600,000 to 700,000 cubic meters of sludge, a residue generated during bauxite refining, gushed out of the reservoir, owned by MAL Zrt. A spokesman for the European Union (EU) executive body said January 13 that while applying for the environmental permit, Budapest incorrectly stated red mud is a “non-hazardous” material, while actually it should have come under the safety classification “hazardous.” He suggested Hungary give a revised classification of the toxic chemical for permit. Hungary faces legal sanctions, including a fine, if an investigation by the European Commission proves the country broke EU rules in its classification of the red mud reservoir. 
51. January 12, Associated Press – (North Dakota) **Snow hampering Clausen Springs Dam repair work.** Heavy snowfall this winter is hampering repair work on the Clausen Springs dam in southeast North Dakota. A Barnes County Water Resource District board member said it is important to get the dam’s spillway shored up by spring. The spillway eroded during spring flooding in the region in April 2009, prompting the brief evacuation of the 55 residents of Kathryn. National Guard soldiers in helicopters dropped dozens of large sandbags as a temporary fix. A spokesman with Sellin Brothers said the contractor is working on a plan to have the spillway work done by spring, and to complete other work by the summer.
Source: [http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/article_365896d8-1e6b-11e0-ac8e-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/article_365896d8-1e6b-11e0-ac8e-001cc4c002e0.html)

52. January 12, KSAT 12 San Antonio – (Texas) **Canyon Dam maintenance under way.** Canyon Dam, in New Braunfeels, Texas, has been around since 1958. For the first time ever, the Army Corps of Engineers decided now would be a good time to do a tune up on the hydraulic system that controls the gates that regulates the release of water through the dam. Residents who live below the dam can rest assured there is nothing wrong with the hydraulics, or the gates, and that this work is being done to make sure it stays that way. Water flow to the lower Guadalupe River is being shut off during the daylight hours in order to complete the work. During the overnight hours water flow is increased to between 170 and 200 cubic feet per second. The Corps hopes to have the project completed by the end of April.

53. January 12, Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel – (Florida) **Cost, deadline create hurdles for fixing levee that protects South Florida from Everglades flooding.** Fixing the levee that keeps the Everglades from flooding South Florida communities could cost more and take longer than expected, the South Florida Water Management District revealed January 12. The Broward County section of the East Coast Protective Levee fails to meet certification standards for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), according to an engineering assessment issued late last year. In addition to raising safety concerns, failing to meet those federal standards could lead to inflated flood insurance costs in Weston, Coral Springs, Sunrise, Pembroke Pines, and Broward’s other western communities. While district officials once speculated that improvement costs may not exceed $10 million, on January 12 they learned costs for South Florida taxpayers could grow, and that the repair work could take longer than the 2-year window FEMA allows. In addition, the Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a separate review of the entire 100-mile levee that starts near West Palm Beach in Palm Beach County, stretches through Broward, and extends to southern Miami-Dade County. District officials insist the levee is safe and has successfully protected South Florida communities through 6 decades. There is “no imminent threat of structural failure,” according to the district.
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