



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 February 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- KRIV 26 Houston reports crews managed to extinguish most of a huge blaze, February 9, a day after several fiery explosion at a petrochemical plant damaged vehicles and equipment. (See item [2](#))
- According to the Mineral Wells Index, Parker County, Texas officials are trying to determine whether a spike in chlorine levels in a water tank was caused by the weather or an intentional act. (See item [29](#))

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. *February 9, Reuters* – (International) **Pirates hijack U.S.-bound oil tanker off Oman.** Armed pirates seized a U.S.-bound oil tanker off Oman carrying around \$200 million worth of crude February 9 in one of the biggest raids in the area to date, escalating the threat to vital shipping lanes. The 333-meter crude carrier, the Irene SL, was carrying about 2 million barrels of crude oil, estimated to be nearly 20 percent of daily U.S. crude imports, a day after an Italian tanker was snatched by Somali pirates.

A spokeswoman for the multinational Combined Maritime Forces fighting piracy in the area, said the tanker was hijacked 220 nautical miles off Oman and was likely attacked by Somali pirates. Ship industry associations have warned that more than 40 percent of the world's seaborne oil supply passing through the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea was at high risk from well-equipped Somali pirates, who are able to operate ever further out at sea and for longer periods using mother ships.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/sns-rt-international-us-omatre7182q2-20110209,0,5572781.story>

2. *February 9, KRIV 26 Houston* – (Texas) **No cause released for Mont Belvieu fire.** Investigators said they cannot specify the cause of a February 8 petrochemical plant explosion and fire in Mont Belvieu, Texas until the rubble cools down. Crews were able to cut off the fire's fuel sources overnight at the Enterprise Products Partners plant, a company spokesman told FOX 26 News, but he said they are still battling hot spots. The explosions happened one after another at the plant shortly before 12:30 p.m. The Enterprise facility processes liquid natural gas into chemicals used in plastic and tire manufacturing, as well as a fuel additive. The plant sits atop underground caves that can store up to 100 million barrels of natural gas liquids. The Enterprise spokesman said one person has still not been accounted for since the explosion. "We have made contact with some of the family members," he said February 9. The spokesman said damage was limited to vehicles and equipment on plant property. In addition to company investigators, federal investigators from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration are at the site.
Source: <http://www.myfoxfouston.com/dpp/news/local/110209-enterprise-products-partners-plant-fire#>
3. *February 8, Staten Island Advance* – (New York) **4M penalty in 2003 Staten Island oil barge explosion that killed 2.** The owner and operator of a barge that exploded 8 years ago in Port Mobil in Charleston, in New York City killing two workers and dumping 3.2 million gallons of gasoline into the Arthur Kill channel between Staten Island, New York and New Jersey have agreed to pay a \$4 million penalty to the U.S. Coast Guard, it was announced February 8. The civil penalty is the largest ever collected by the Coast Guard in a federal Clean Water Act case, said officials. It will be paid by the barge's operator, Bouchard Transportation Company of Melville, Long Island, New York, and its owner, the B. No. 125 Corporation. The explosion happened February 21, 2003, when a 200-foot barge, the B-125, containing 100,000 barrels of unleaded gasoline, was being off-loaded at the 203-acre storage facility at Port Mobil. The blast sent a giant fireball skyward, and shattered windows and damaged buildings along the mixed-use residential and industrial area of the Arthur Kill shoreline. The facility, now owned by Kinder Morgan, was considered by police to be the third-highest security "hot spot" on Staten Island — after the Staten Island Ferry and the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. A total of about 56,000 barrels of unleaded gasoline, or 3.2 million gallons, spilled into the water.

Source:

http://www.silive.com/southshore/index.ssf/2011/02/4m_penalty_in_2003_staten_isla.html

For more stories, see items [31](#) and [53](#)

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

Chemical Industry Sector

4. *February 9, Dekalb Daily Chronicle* – (Illinois) **I-39 plows, semi crash shuts down interstate.** A crash involving two snowplows and a semitrailer closed Interstate 39 from Route 72 to Route 64 in Dekalb, Illinois, most of the day February 8, and sent three drivers to the hospital with minor injuries. The accident happened at about noon; I-39 still was closed at 10 p.m. Crews were working to remove the tipped semi, which was carrying liquid ammonia nitrate, an Illinois State Trooper said. “There has been no spill, but because it’s a hazard materials situation, we want everyone safely back from the scene,” he said.
Source: <http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2011/02/08/i-39-plows-semi-crash-shuts-down-interstate/aurrsl/>
5. *February 8, Gainesville Sun* – (Florida) **Employee at SynQuest Labs receives significant burns, sent to Shands at UF after mixture explodes.** An employee of an Alachua chemical company in Gainesville, Florida, received significant burns February 8 when a mixture that he was working exploded, the Alachua County Fire Rescue district chief reported. “The gentleman was mixing two chemicals and the beaker blew up,” he said. “He is severely injured. I understand most of his burns were to his face and upper torso, and a lot of glass shards from the beaker.” The man was taken to Shands at the University of Florida. SynQuest Labs is at 13201 Rachael Blvd. in Alachua. The company’s Web site said it makes a “comprehensive product range of fluorinated chemicals for innovative products and enabling technologies for chemical research.”
Source: <http://www.gainesville.com/article/20110208/ARTICLES/110209457/-1/entertainment?Title=Chemical-company-employee-receives-burns-after-mixture-explodes&tc=ar>
6. *February 8, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Chandler crews contain toxic chemical spill.** Nearly 300 gallons of the toxic liquid xylene spilled out of a holding tank in a light industrial park near 101 South Mckemy Avenue in Chandler, Arizona, February 8, the Chandler Fire Department said. Authorities believed the level monitoring system in a 3,000-gallon holding tank malfunctioned, allowing the flammable liquid to overflow, the Chandler Fire Department battalion chief said. Firefighters were able to contain the highly flammable liquid and prevent additional overflow. The xylene that flowed out of the tank collected in a containment pit. Xylene is a clear, colorless liquid that has a characteristically sweet smell. It is commonly used as a solvent in the printing and rubber industries, and as a cleaning agent. Contractors hired by the owner of the tank are expected to clean up the spill with fire crews providing protection.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/chandler/articles/2011/02/08/20110208chandler-xylene-spill-clean-up-abrk.html>

For another story, see item [2](#)

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *February 9, Michigan Messenger* – (International) **U.S. could stop planned Great Lakes nuke transport.** The U.S. Department of Transportation has the authority to block a controversial plan to ship radioactive waste over the Great Lakes. During the week of January 31, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission approved a plan to ship 16-school-bus sized steam generators from the Bruce Nuclear Station on Lake Huron to Sweden for reprocessing and reintroduction to the commercial metals market. The move required special arrangements with Canadian regulators because the generators are so large that no International Atomic Energy Agency-approved container can hold them ,and because the amount of radiation they contain exceeds the limits for shipments under international law. Because the shipment would pass through U.S. territories in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Seaway en route to Sweden, U.S. approval is necessary. The agency responsible for oversight of nuclear shipments in the U.S. is the DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, an agency that has come under criticism recently for its failure to prevent oil and gas pipeline ruptures. In a November 8, 2010 statement, the PHMSA director said the agency would begin considering Bruce Power's application for a "special arrangement" once the shipping plan was approved by the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. Over the past 2 decades, the agency has made special arrangements for the shipping of approximately 40 large nuclear power plant components, she said, but "almost all of the prior U.S. consignments had a lesser radioactive hazard than the proposed Canadian steam generator transport."

Source: <http://michiganmessenger.com/46399/u-s-could-stop-planned-great-lakes-nuke-transport>

8. *February 9, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Pa. man brings pistol, hollow-point bullets to Oyster Creek power plant.** Authorities in New Jersey said a Pennsylvania man had a pistol and hollow-point bullets when he drove through the front gate of the nation's oldest nuclear power plant. Lacey Township police said the suspect was visiting the Oyster Creek nuclear plant on business. A police official told the Asbury Park Press that security personnel found a loaded .32-caliber pistol and hollow-point bullets while inspecting the vehicle. The police official said the man's gun permit had expired. The man was charged with unlawful possession of a weapon, and possession of hollow-point bullets.

Source: http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/02/pa_man_brings_pistol_hollow-po.html

9. *February 9, Platts* – (National) **Senators chide NRC on pace of nuclear plant license renewals.** Pressure is mounting on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chairman to ensure the panel more closely adheres to its timetable for a 2-year review of petitions to grant nuclear power plants 20-year license renewals. Two Republican senators wrote a letter February 7 to the NRC chairman to express concern the agency has developed “a dual standard” for reviewing license renewal applications, contrary to the Atomic Energy Act and NRC regulations. The senators said NRC acts quickly to approve applications that are little contested by local communities, but permits “excessive, unmanaged delays for applications perceived to be more controversial. Although the Senators did not cite specific examples of nuclear plant license renewal applications, just two have been pending before NRC for over 5 years: Vermont Yankee and Pilgrim-1, both owned by Entergy. An NRC spokesman said February 5 that the NRC Chairman “will respond to the Senators through the normal correspondence channels.”

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/8519472>

10. *February 7, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Japan, U.S. plan nuclear counterterrorism ‘road map’.** Japan and the United States are preparing a “road map” for cooperative efforts to prevent atomic site workers from stealing potential ingredients for an act of nuclear terrorism, a top White House counterterrorism official told Kyodo News February 4. The plan would address the development of “security-by-design concepts” for facilities such as nuclear energy stations and atomic fuel processing sites, said the National Security Council senior director for WMD terrorism and threat reduction. The blueprint is slated for completion ahead of the second Global Nuclear Security Summit, slated to take place in Seoul in 2012.

Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110207_5734.php

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

Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *February 9, Associated Press* – (National) **Toyota trying to move beyond safety concerns.** The results of a government investigation into Toyota safety problems released February 8 has found no electronic flaws to account for reports of sudden, unintentional acceleration in the auto manufacturer’s vehicles. Transportation officials and engineers with NASA said two mechanical safety defects previously identified by the government — sticking accelerator pedals and gas pedals that can become trapped in floor mats — are the only known causes for the reports of runaway Toyotas. Both issues were the subject of large recalls. The Department of Transportation Secretary said the agency’s 10-month study concluded there is no electronic-based cause of unintended high-speed acceleration. Toyota has recalled more than 12 million vehicles globally since fall 2009 for a series of safety issues. The company has denied that electronics are to blame.

Source:

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_TOYOTA_RECALLS?SITE=NCASH&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

12. *February 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Lasko recalls portable electric heaters due to fire hazard.** Lasko Products Inc., of West Chester, Pennsylvania, issued a recall February 8 of about 107,500 portable electric heaters. The Lasko Model 5540 and Air King Model 8540 are subject to the recall. An electrical connection in the base of the unit can overheat, causing it to melt and expose the electrical connection, posing a fire hazard to consumers. Lasko received 36 reports of the electrical connection overheating with no reports of injury. There were 18 reports of minor burn damage to floors or carpets. The Lasko Model 5540 was sold at Sam's Club and other retailers from September 2002 through early 2004. The Air King Model 8540 was sold primarily through the maintenance, repair, and operating products supply company, W.W. Grainger Inc. from late 2002 to 2004.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11121.html>

13. *February 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Portable space heaters recalled by PD Sixty Distributor due to fire hazard.** PD Sixty Distributor Inc., of Norcross, Georgia, issued a recall February 8 of about 3,000 portable space heaters. The heaters can overheat due to loose electrical connections, posing a fire hazard. The firm has received one report of the heater overheating, resulting in the unit catching fire and causing minor property damage. No injuries have been reported. The space heaters were sold at Hancock Fabrics stores nationwide and by America's Sewing Machine Company, of Augusta, Georgia, through nationwide direct marketing from October 2008 through March 2009.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11720.html>

14. *February 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Simplex fire alarm control panels recalled by Tyco Safety Products Westminster due to failure to alert monitoring centers.** Tyco Safety Products Westminster of Westminster, Massachusetts, issued a recall February 8 of about 540 Simplex fire alarm control panels. The recalled panels can fail to send a signal to alert monitoring centers of fires. The firm has received two reports of alarms failing to alert monitoring centers. No injuries have been reported. The panels were distributed by SimplexGrinnell from May 2010 to September 2010.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11721.html>

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

15. *February 9, Homeland Security News Wire* – (International) **DARPA's flying Hummers concept questioned.** The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) proposed an innovative solution to the problem of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) soldiers face on the battlefield: fly over them — if soldiers spot an IED, they push a button and the vehicle they ride in turns into a flying car. However,

DARPA has a daunting list of specs for the vehicle: It must be able to take on small-arms fire and meet federal standards for safety and crash protection; it must have four-wheel drive and be able to reach an altitude of 10,000 feet; and should the driver become incapacitated, it has to be able to fly itself. Critics said it would be easier and cheaper to make road vehicles sturdier and better-able to withstand IEDs.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/darpas-flying-hummers-concept-questioned>

16. *February 8, Associated Press* – (National) **Navy employee, Ga. contractor accused of kickbacks.** A civilian employee of the U.S. Navy and the founder of a Georgia-based technology services company with more than \$120 million in Navy contracts have been charged in a \$10 million kickback and bribery scheme, federal prosecutors announced February 8. The scheme dates back more than 10 years and involved bogus and inflated invoices and work that was paid for but never performed, prosecutors said. One man, 58, of Roswell, Georgia, and another, 52, of Arlington, Virginia, are charged in a criminal complaint with bribery of a public official. The 58-year-old is the founder and president of Georgia-based Advanced Solutions for Tomorrow (ASFT), which has an office in Middletown and more than \$120 million in Navy contracts. The 52-year-old is a civilian program manager and senior systems engineer for the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), which prosecutors said accounts for nearly one-fourth of the Navy's entire budget and has a force of 53,000 civilian, military, and contract support personnel. Prosecutors said the 58-year-old funneled about \$10 million through his company's subcontractors to the 52-year-old and his relatives and associates in return for Navy funding on ASFT contracts. They allege the 52-year-old, who controls funding for NAVSEA's technical programs, abused his authority by adding money to existing ASFT contracts with the Navy for work that was never done.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-09/navy-employee-ga-contractor-accused-of-kickbacks.html>

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

Banking and Finance Sector

17. *February 8, Fort Worth Star-Telegram* – (Texas) **2 bandits sought in up to 10 bank robberies in North Texas.** A \$25,000 reward was offered February 8 for a team of bank robbers who the FBI described as armed and dangerous and responsible for as many as 10 bank holdups in North Texas. The two men armed with handguns have been known to take over banks and corral employees in restrooms just before leaving the bank, according to the FBI. The reward offered by Bank of America, Wells Fargo, and the Texas Bankers Foundation is for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the two men who have entered banks wearing baggy blue jeans, dark hooded sweatshirts, and masks. FBI officials said the team is responsible for a December 3, 2010, holdup at the Bank of America in Irving; the July 16, 2010, robbery at Bank of America in Dallas; the January 28, 2010, holdup at Bank of America in Dallas; the January 6, 2010, robbery of Resource One Credit Union and six other bank holdups in recent months. The robbers have been seen driving away from a bank

holdup in a black sedan with tinted windows, according to an FBI news release. The men are described as either African-American or Hispanic, about 16- to 25-years-old, 5-foot-6 to 5-foot-9, and weighing about 140 to 160 pounds. The robberies are being investigated by the FBI and police departments in Dallas, Cedar Hill, and Irving.
Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/02/08/2832382/2-bandits-sought-in-up-to-10-bank.html>

18. *February 7, KERO 23 Bakersfield* – (California; Nevada) **\$3.7M embezzled by former bank officer, city councilman.** The United States Attorney for the Eastern District of California announced that a 43 year-old male from Ely, Nevada, pleaded guilty February 7 before a United States District Judge in federal court in Las Vegas to embezzling at least \$3.7 million from the First National Bank of Ely over about 10 years. Upon discovering the man’s activity, the Bank of Ely promptly reported it to law enforcement and followed up with a thorough internal investigation. The case was extensively investigated by the FBI. They have determined that the man acted alone.
Source: <http://www.turnto23.com/news/26781374/detail.html>

19. *February 7, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Former local bank officer convicted of fraud.** The former vice president of a bank in Glens Falls, New York, was convicted February 4 of a federal bank fraud charge after a 2-week trial in U.S. District Court in Albany. The 61-year-old male, a former Queensbury, New York resident who lives in Texas, was found guilty of a felony charge related to a fraudulent loan application for \$1.6 million. The man was executive vice president of First National Bank of Glens Falls, spending 20 years with the bank from the 1970s until 1992. First National Bank of Glens Falls was purchased by Evergreen Bank and later became part of TD Bank. The case against the former bank vice president centered on a \$1.6 million loan a former Queensbury resident took out in 1999 to buy a Texas asbestos abatement company, P.W. Stephens Residential Inc., from a company for which the former bank president worked.
Source: http://poststar.com/news/local/article_ff7c9f7c-3302-11e0-b4cb-001cc4c002e0.html

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

Transportation Sector

20. *February 9, Watertown Daily Times* – (New York) **CSX freight train derails in Canton, shutting down line.** A freight train derailment in Canton, New York, February 8 shut down CSX Transportation’s line between Massena and Syracuse. Eight box cars on a southbound train went off the tracks about 6 p.m., with seven of them derailing next to the St. Lawrence County highway department building, fire officials said. Several of the box cars were buried in the deep snow between Park and Miner streets. No cars had overturned, but one box car lost a set of wheels. The car missing its wheels was still attached to the remainder of the train, which stopped about 100 yards south of the Buck Street crossing. A section of track between Miner and Park streets was torn up from the derailment. The Canton fire chief said the 75-car train was loaded

with lumber and paper products — no hazardous materials. CSX officials said the train was heading to Selkirk. “They expect the cleanup and repair of the track to take 2 days,” a CSX official said. A CSX train cleanup crew was expected to arrive February 9 to begin removing derailed cars.

Source: <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20110209/NEWS05/302099947>

21. *February 9, Australian Associated Press* – (International) **Australian terrorist threat to airports.** A group of Australians who are believed to be at terrorist training camps in Yemen pose a threat to airport security in Australia, a security expert has warned. ABC Television’s Foreign Correspondent has reported that 22 Australians have gone missing in Yemen and are believed to be at al-Qaeda training camps. Heading up the al-Qaeda regime in Yemen is an American citizen. The suspect has been allegedly involved in a number of terrorist attacks and in his Internet sermons — delivered in perfect English — he preaches contempt for non-believers. The 22 Australians are believed to be receiving training at these camps where their value is their Australian passports and the access they can gain with them. “The authorities know who these people are,” the homeland security asia pacific director said. All people who work in airports should be briefed on terrorist threats, according to the director of homeland security.
Source: <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/australian-terrorist-threat-to-airports/story-fn3dxity-1226002550567>

22. *February 8, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **More buildings damaged or destroyed by weight of snow.** In Connecticut, a hangar at Bradley International Airport, a realty office in Killingly, and a factory in South Windsor February 8 joined the list of buildings damaged or destroyed as roofs failed under the weight of snow. Roughly 250 people were evacuated from a maintenance hangar in the Bombardier-Hartford Service Center at Bradley International Airport after employees in the building said they heard creaking from overhead, according to the airport operations specialist at Bradley. A Bombardier spokeswoman said there were a “couple dozen” aircraft in the facility when the building was evacuated at 2 p.m. after employees noticed the ceiling was sagging in one area. None of the aircraft were damaged.
Source: http://articles.courant.com/2011-02-08/news/hc-tuesday-collapses-0209-20110208_1_realty-office-hangar-building

23. *February 7, United Press International* – (National) **Israel, U.S. to ease Israeli travel checks.** Israel and the United States have agreed to participate in a pilot program to ease security checks for Israelis at U.S. airports, an Israeli official said. The program, dubbed Global Entry, will allow expedited clearance for some Israeli citizens arriving in the United States, Ynetnews(dot)com reported. The decision was the outcome of a meeting February 6 between Israeli foreign ministry officials and the assistant U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security for the private sector. Hundreds of Israelis will be able to participate in the pilot program and utilize automated biometric checks similar to those in use at Israel’s Ben-Gurion International Airport. In Israel, travelers use a special plastic pass that has their identity and passport number and feed it into a machine that compiles the data and issues a slip within seconds, allowing them to pass through without having to stand in queues. The United States will determine who can

qualify for the pilot program, the Web site said.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/02/07/Israel-US-to-ease-Israeli-travel-checks/UPI-59451297081616/

For more stories, see items [1](#), [7](#), and [53](#)

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

24. *February 9, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Man in Illinois jail charged in Georgia school threats.** Police in Marietta, Georgia, said a man being held in an Illinois jail is charged with mailing bomb threats to two Marietta schools. A Marietta police spokeswoman said the 29-year-old suspect is charged with sending threatening letters to Marietta High School and Marietta Middle School February 1. She said the man is accused to mailing the letters from Illinois. He was arrested on other charges January 31. The schools received identical, photocopied letters threatening a bomb if \$10 million was not delivered to 10 people whose names were listed on the back of the letter by February 4. The man is in custody in Cook County.

Source: <http://www.rrstar.com/news/x1371485640/Man-in-Illinois-jail-charged-in-Georgia-school-threats>

25. *February 8, KXAS 5 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **MacArthur HS clear after suspicious package investigation.** Authorities evacuated MacArthur High School in the Irving Independent School District in Irving, Texas around 1:15 p.m., February 8 after a suspicious package was discovered on the campus. Students and faculty were evacuated to a safe area south of the school while emergency crews worked on the package with a water cannon. Irving Police said the package was wrapped in birthday wrapping paper and addressed generically to the high school from another address out of the state. Police mentioned some misspellings on the address label that made them suspicious. Students were let back inside the building around 2:30 p.m., when the situation was cleared by officials. There was no explosive material in the package. The police investigation is ongoing.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local-beat/MacArthur-HS-Evacuated-Due-to-Suspicious-Package-115585704.html>

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *February 9, WZZM 13 Grand Rapids* – (Michigan) **Fire forces temporary evacuation of Gerber plant.** Crews from three fire departments responded to the Gerber baby food plant in Fremont, Michigan, February 9. Workers were forced to evacuate after heavy smoke filled one area of the plant for a short period of time. According to Newaygo County Central Dispatch, the fire started in a machine around 3:45 a.m. It was contained to a remote area of the plant by the sprinkler system. Fire crews had the fire

out within 20 minutes of arriving on the scene.

Source: http://www.wzzm13.com/news/news_story.aspx?storyid=152843&catid=14

27. *February 9, Food Safety News* – (Pennsylvania) **Mold, insects found at PA canning factory.** Mold, maggots, and flies were found during a federal inspection of a Pennsylvania canning factory. In a February 2 warning letter, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) detailed multiple problems at Furman Foods Inc., which cans products like Rally’s Chili and Furmano’s Dark Red Kidney Beans. The FDA said the acidified and low-acid canned food manufacturing facility in Northumberland, Pennsylvania, was inspected last August 30 through September 10. FDA analyzed samples of Rally’s Chili that were found with “a hard swell, viable unspecified mold, seam defect, air bubbles, and food trapped within seam wall.” It had concerns about the pH levels. Among the significant violations were: No acidified food expert to schedule processes for the product; insufficient testing and examination of pouches to protect them from leakage and contamination; wastewater discharge from the retort system was observed over-flowing the discharge pit while production was underway; and lack of pest control as evidenced by maggots, crawling insects, and flies in pallets used to move product.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/02/mold-maggots-and-filth-found-at-pa-canning-factory/>

28. *February 8, Columbia State* – (South Carolina) **Workers allowed back into chicken plant.** An early evening fire at the Columbia Farms chicken processing plant in West Columbia, South Carolina, had streets blocked off February 8 near the Vista’s Gervais Street Bridge and U.S. 378 while firefighters fought what was left of a fire in one building of the plant. At 8:14 p.m., workers were allowed back into the plant, which operates around the clock. One worker said an alarm had sounded and the plant “had an orderly evacuation.” About 60 people were working in the plant at the time. All were evacuated. The fire started shortly before 6:30 p.m. in the facility’s water treatment plant. The building had some chemicals in it, but they were” not compromised.” Firefighters will investigate the location of where the fire started in the water treatment plant and the cause of the fire. The Columbia fire department sent a haz-mat team to assist the West Columbia fire department.

Source: <http://www.thestate.com/2011/02/08/1685369/downtown-chicken-plant-on-fire.html>

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

Water Sector

29. *February 9, Mineral Wells Index* – (Texas) **Parker County officials probe water contamination.** Parker County, Texas officials are investigating a water tank contaminated February 6 in Annetta. The question for authorities is whether the contamination was intentional or an accident. After a resident complained her skin was burning in the shower, Hudson Oaks officials discovered a large amount of chlorine was pumped into the water system at Lakes of Aledo subdivision, the Parker County

Sheriff's Office said. Another resident complained of cloudy water. A team of investigators inspected the water tank and the area surrounding it February 8. The sheriff noted possible footprints and two fence boards that could have given access to the tank. He said around 4 p.m. February 6, the water superintendent reported damage to a section of the fence that surrounds the tank. The tank is contracted to provide water to a portion of the Annettas. After the two complaints were logged, employees went back to the tank and found chlorine residual levels were higher than usual, the sheriff said. According to the sheriff's office, about 12,000 gallons of water were immediately drained. He said the ice storm that hit the county the week of January 31 could have possibly caused the tank to work incorrectly. "It begs the question that if you can put that in the tank, what else can you put in there," he said. Although the chlorine residual levels were 1.8, the water was safe the entire time, a water operator said. Normally the city's water runs at 0.8 on chlorine levels, and state officials require chlorine levels to remain at 4 or lower.

Source: <http://mineralwellsindex.com/local/x1569784952/Parker-County-officials-probe-water-contamination>

30. *February 8, Homeland Security News Wire* – (Connecticut; National) **Counterterror laws hobble monitoring of water supplies.** In an effort to secure U.S. critical infrastructure after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, sensitive data regarding community water plans such as where wells are drilled have been tightly guarded. According to the executive director of the Connecticut Water Works Association, DHS has evidence that al Qaeda was exploring methods to destroy water infrastructure or introduce chemicals into the water supply. Environmentalists do not dispute that terrorists could be targeting the U.S. water supply, but are instead pushing for greater transparency to ensure adequate water supplies for their communities. "Enemies poisoning each other's water are a threat in times of conflict, but we may do serious harm by abandoning our watershed stewardship," said the executive director of the Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, an organization dedicated to responsibly managing the state's waterways. She and her organization want to make it easier to obtain basic data from water companies to foster debate and hold companies responsible for maintaining local water supplies. The Wallingford Water Company claimed it does not have the ability to comply with state department of environmental protection regulations, citing an internal study that found that it would cost \$10 million to comply.

Source: <http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/counterterror-laws-hobble-monitoring-water-supplies>

31. *February 8, Reuters* – (Pennsylvania) **U.S. city of Buffalo bans hydraulic fracturing.** Buffalo, New York banned the natural gas drilling technique of hydraulic fracturing February 8 in a largely symbolic vote that fuels debate over the potential harm to groundwater from mining an abundant energy source. The city council voted 9-0 to prohibit natural gas extraction including the process known as "fracking" where chemicals, sand and water are blasted deep into the earth to fracture shale formations and allow gas to escape. The ordinance also bans storing, transferring, treating or disposing of fracking waste within the city. No such drilling projects had been planned in Buffalo, though city officials were concerned fracking wastewater from nearby

operations was reaching the city sewer system. Backers of the measure hope it will help build pressure against fracking, which environmentalists say endangers groundwater as a result of leaking chemicals. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, has enacted a similar ban. Industry supporters said fracking is proven to be safe and can provide a much-needed domestic energy source. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is studying the impact of fracking and February 8 submitted a draft of its study to the agency's science advisory board for review. Initial findings from the study are expected to be made public by the end of 2012.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/08/energy-natgas-usa-buffalo-idUSN0818750720110208>

32. *February 6, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **Water-treatment method can create pollution problem.** A new treatment system that produces cleaner drinking water also could cause pollution problems for several Ohio cities. “Reverse osmosis” forces water from streams and wells through membranes that filter out even microscopic bits of minerals and dirt. Columbus is studying it. Delaware and Marysville plan to use it. It’s one way to meet tougher state and federal drinking-water mandates. But for every 10 gallons of water run through such systems, there is as much as 2 gallons of “reject water” that contains pollutants that didn’t get past the filter. This reject water contains so much organic matter and minerals that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency fears it could kill fish and other aquatic wildlife if it is dumped into streams. As a result, Delaware might have to spend \$2 million to pump reject water 5 miles to its sewer plant. And in Marysville, officials said they might have to spend as much as \$1 million to drill a well to inject the waste 3,500 feet underground. Tougher federal standards to make drinking water cleaner that take effect in 2012 and ‘13 are forcing cities to look for more-effective ways to filter raw water. It’s unclear how many of Ohio’s 348 public water systems will have to meet the mandates because they are not required to test for problems until the new standards take effect.

Source: http://www.dispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2011/02/06/water-treatment-method-can-create-pollution-problem.html?sid=101

For another story, see item [3](#)

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *February 9, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **VA dentist may have exposed veterans to HIV, hepatitis.** Officials at the Dayton VA Center said February 8 that 535 Dayton, Ohio-area veterans may have been exposed to diseases like HIV and Hepatitis. The exposures may have happened during visits to the dental clinic over the past 18 years. A testing clinic has been set up on the grounds of the Dayton VA Center. According to officials with the Veteran’s Association, one dentist did not follow proper sanitary procedures. The dentist allegedly failed to wash his hands or sterilize dental equipment between patients. That put the patients at risk for possibly being infected with HIV or Hepatitis B or C. Officials said the patients at-risk will be contacted by telephone

beginning February 8. They will be asked to come to the clinic to be tested.

Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/26788140/detail.html>

34. *February 8, WRTV 6 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Flu now widespread in Indiana.** Indiana has joined 29 other states reporting widespread cases of influenza as the apparent peak of the flu season sweeps through the state. In its latest report issued February 8, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said Indiana joined four other new states reporting a widespread outbreak of influenza. “Most key flu indicators increased this week, including the number of people visiting doctors for influenza-like illness, the number of states reporting widespread influenza activity and the proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza,” the CDC said in a news release. It is likely that Indiana is in or near the peak of flu activity this season. The CDC said the typical seasonal flu peak is in late January or February. Doctors offices and health clinics, such as CVS’ MinuteClinic and Walgreens’ Take Care Clinic, have been overflowing with patients for the last week.
Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/health/26787660/detail.html>

35. *February 8, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Setbacks seen in bioshield procurements.** The U.S. Health and Human Services Department said it faced many setbacks in 2009 to a program aimed at developing countermeasures to biological agents and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD) materials, Homeland Security Newswire reported the week of January 30. “Significant events transpired in 2009 for Project Bioshield products that have further sharpened our understanding of the challenges we continue to face in the complex undertaking of medical product approval,” said the annual report to Congress covering program developments over the 2009 calendar year. The Food and Drug Administration ruled out approval in 2009 of the anthrax countermeasure ABthrax until additional analyses could be completed. In a bid to produce a more refined next-generation anthrax vaccine, officials in December 2009 scrapped an application process for biotechnology firms to propose projects aimed at creating the treatment. Project Bioshield provided \$5.6 billion for the purchase of medical treatments for the U.S. Strategic National Stockpile. Roughly \$2.4 billion was left at the end of 2009.
Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110208_5731.php

36. *February 8, California Healthline* – (California) **San Francisco reports data breach affecting Medi-Cal beneficiaries.** An employee dispute at the Human Services Agency of San Francisco, California has resulted in an information breach affecting about 2,400 Medi-Cal beneficiaries, the San Francisco Examiner reported February 4. Medi-Cal is California’s Medicaid program. The agency’s director said the breach occurred when a former employee e-mailed records to her personal computer, two attorneys and two union representatives. The former employee, who had been terminated for performance issues, was attempting to demonstrate she had faced a disproportionately high caseload, the director said. He noted the records contained Medi-Cal beneficiaries’ names, Social Security numbers, and other identifying information. According to the director, the records were “extremely contained” and did not include sensitive medical or health data. He said affected beneficiaries would

receive letters about the breach.

Source: <http://www.californiahealthline.org/articles/2011/2/8/san-francisco-reports-data-breach-affecting-medical-beneficiaries.aspx>

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

Government Facilities Sector

37. *February 8, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Man charged in Baltimore County toilet bomb hoax.** A 51-year-old Baltimore, Maryland, man has been charged after county police said he left a decorated toilet made to look like a bomb outside a Baltimore County office building. The suspect was charged February 7 with placing a phony destructive device outside the old courthouse building in Towson, which now houses the offices of the county executive and council. The toilet was decorated with newspaper clipping and photos, including photos of the suspect, and had a cell phone, an electronic device and a note signed by the suspect attached to it, police said. The county bomb squad investigated, but a police spokesman said it proved harmless. The suspect, who is being held on \$200,000 bail, is also charged with making a false statement on Facebook about leaving destructive devices outside the building.

Source: <http://thedailyrecord.com/2011/02/08/man-charged-in-baltimore-county-toilet-bomb-hoax/>

38. *February 8, WNDU 16 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Elkhart City Bomb Squad examines vintage artillery at Goshen College.** The Elkhart City Bomb Squad in Indiana was called out to Goshen College February 8 about 9:30 a.m. to examine vintage artillery. The artillery was found in storage. It had been used as part of a display in the past, and has been at Goshen College since the early 1990's. The building was evacuated, and the bomb squad removed the items. The bomb squad determined they were capable of exploding.

Source:

http://www.wndu.com/localnews/headlines/Elkhart_City_Bomb_Squad_examines_vintage_artillery_at_Goshen_College_115594084.html

39. *February 8, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Teen charged after school bomb threat.** Police in Kodiak, Alaska, said a 17-year-old boy is facing charges after a bomb threat that forced the evacuation of Kodiak High School. KMXT-FM reported the teenager faces one count each of terroristic threatening and destruction of evidence, both class C felonies. Kodiak School District officials received the threat via the Internet February 1, leading to the evacuation of about 700 students as city police and Alaska state troopers swept the building without finding any bomb. District officials traced the message to a computer on campus. The Kodiak police chief said because of the boy's age, his case has been referred to the state division of juvenile justice.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/2011/02/08/1691271/teen-charged-after-school-bomb.html>

40. *February 8, Elko Daily Free Press* – (Nevada) **Deputies arrest Wells man on school bomb threat charge.** A Wells, Nevada, man was arrested February 4 by a sheriff's deputy after he reportedly made a bomb threat at Wells High School. According to a sheriff's lieutenant, the 18-year-old suspect is a student. He was overheard by a fellow student allegedly threatening to blow up the school. The principal suspended the suspect from classes for 3 days. Later that day, the suspect returned to the school, and he was arrested by a sheriff's deputy for allegedly making a bomb threat and for trespassing.
Source: http://elkodaily.com/news/local/article_adaeb688-33a9-11e0-bbaf-001cc4c002e0.html
41. *February 8, WTOP 103.5 FM Washington D.C.* – (District of Columbia) **Teen arrested for Molotov cocktail at D.C. school.** A 13-year-old is under arrest and the school system wants him expelled for bringing a Molotov cocktail to Jefferson Middle School in Washington D.C. The assistant press secretary at D.C. Public Schools said school security found a small bottle of liquid wrapped in duct tape in the boy's bookbag. The discovery was made during x-ray weapons screenings before the boy entered the building. The student has been charged with possession of a destructive device, D.C. police said. D.C. Public Schools said the student will not be allowed to return to school until the expulsion procedure is completed.
Source: <http://www.wtopnews.com/?sid=2263950&nid=596>
42. *February 7, DefenseNews* – (International) **U.S. TRANSCOM operates despite enemy attacks.** U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) suffers more cyber attacks than any other combatant command, according to its Air Force General commander. This is partly because, unlike other commands, TRANSCOM relies on unclassified and commercial networks to deliver supplies and passengers all over the world, the commander said February 7 at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. In 2010, there were 33,326 "computer network events against TRANSCOM," according to the four-star's briefing. In addition to cyber attacks, TRANSCOM is the target of piracy and other supply-route attacks, a particular vulnerability for operations in Afghanistan, a landlocked country. TRANSCOM conducts 90 percent of its operations by surface transportation, leaving 10 percent carried out by airlift. However, in Afghanistan, 30 percent is delivered by air, the commander said. Air transport is 10 times more expensive than surface delivery, he said. Sensitive, high-value products travel by air, according to the commander, who said he is confident about the transit options available. In case something unforeseen happens, such as the floods in Pakistan, the coup in Kyrgyzstan or the volcano in Iceland, TRANSCOM has enough options to fall back on, he said.
Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=5644269&c=AME&s=AIR>

For more stories, see items [24](#) and [25](#)

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

Emergency Services Sector

43. *February 9, Fond Du Lac Reporter* – (Wisconsin) **Fox Lake prison warehouse damaged in explosion, fire.** No one was injured following an explosion and fire February 7 at a warehouse outside Fox Lake Correctional Institution in Fox Lake, Wisconsin. A department of corrections spokesman said prison workers reported smelling a strong odor of natural gas near the warehouse around 8 a.m. In response, prison officials evacuated workers from the warehouse, notified the gas company and contacted the Fox Lake Fire Department to standby. “As part of our protocol, we put the prison in modified lockdown status and evacuated inmates from the segregation building near the warehouse,” the spokesman said. Shortly after the evacuation was ordered, there was an explosion and fire inside the warehouse. The warehouse, which is located outside the perimeter of the prison, sustained substantial damage.
Source: <http://www.fdlreporter.com/article/20110209/FON0101/102090624/Fox-Lake-prison-warehouse-damaged-in-explosion-fire>
44. *February 8, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **Man delivers rocket to police station.** A man who found a rocket lying in a grassy area in Lake City, Florida brought it to the Lake City Police Department February 6 so police could dispose of it, Lake City police said. They said officers with prior military experience determined the device was a live, high-explosive military round. Police contacted the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit, which identified the explosive as a M427 rocket with 2.3 pounds of composition B, a mixture of TNT and Semtex, both of which are highly explosive. Alachua County deputies did not have the means to transport this device, so police said they contacted the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit at Naval Station Mayport in Jacksonville, Florida. Police said they were advised to set a perimeter for safety, forcing them to close a road for about 2 hours. The Navy was able to transport the device to the Osceola shooting range and safely dispose of it. Police said they don’t know how the device ended up on the side of the road.
Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41479051/ns/local_news-jacksonville_fl/
45. *February 7, WILX 10 Lansing* – (Michigan) **Two of three Jackson fire stations close.** Jackson, Michigan firefighters said their goodbyes February 7 to stations number two and three and moved in to the city’s central and now only station. “It does make it difficult,” the president of the Jackson Professional Firefighters Union Local 1306 said. “It puts less trucks on the scene and obviously less staff on the scene to fight fires.” The city council’s cost-cutting vote to close the two stations is supposed to save \$500,000. But it means means the department loses one of its three trucks. It will also lose personnel. By July 1, at least 5 of the 28 staffers will retire. The deputy chief said they won’t be replaced, and layoffs are not impossible. Firefighters are worried it will get tougher to respond to calls in a timely manner. “In certain areas, we’ll have a longer response because those are the more remote areas,” the deputy chief said. He said as part of the transition, the department will have to limit its responses to non-life threatening incidents so it can prioritize emergencies.
Source:
http://www.wilx.com/news/headlines/Two_of_Three_Jackson_Fire_Stations_Close_115518534.html

46. *February 6, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **NC alcohol bureau has to ditch unreliable weapons.** North Carolina's Alcohol Law Enforcement agency has replaced 150 handguns about a year after buying them because the weapons were defective, the News & Observer of Raleigh reported February 6. The agency director said the Kimber pistols, which originally cost \$1,055, were swapped out for a less pricey gun through a local firearms dealer. The state's more than 130 alcohol enforcement agents and reserve officers rarely use their weapons, but an agent was killed in the line of duty in 1994. Typically, the agents conduct background checks on people applying for liquor licenses, and chase bootleggers.
Source: <http://www.thesunnews.com/2011/02/06/1966108/nc-alcohol-bureau-has-to-ditch.html#ixzz1DThine1K>

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

Information Technology Sector

47. *February 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Flash Player security update fixes critical vulnerabilities.** Adobe has released a major Flash Player update, which, in addition to several new features, patches critical security vulnerabilities that could allow attackers to compromise computers. The new Flash Player 10.2.152.26 version fixes a total of 13 flaws, all of which could be exploited to crash the application and execute arbitrary code. Ten of the security issues fixed are described as memory corruption vulnerabilities, one as an integer overflow, another as a font-parsing bug and the last as a library-loading weakness.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Flash-Player-Security-Update-Fixes-Critical-Vulnerabilities-183286.shtml>
48. *February 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Critical security update released for Adobe Reader and Acrobat.** Adobe has released its scheduled quarterly security updates for Adobe Reader and Acrobat, addressing a large number of critical vulnerabilities. In total, the updates provide fixes for 29 vulnerabilities in Adobe Reader and Acrobat X (10.0), 9.4.1 and 8.2.5 on Windows and Mac. Updates for the UNIX platform are expected around February 28. A number of 23 security issues could be exploited to execute arbitrary code, while an additional 3 might have the same impact, but it has not been demonstrated yet. Two of the remaining vulnerabilities stem from input validation weaknesses that could trigger cross-site scripting conditions, while the last one is a file permissions issue that could be exploited to elevate privileges. Two remote code execution flaws affect only Mac flavor of the products, while the file privilege escalation one is a Windows-only problem.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Critical-Security-Update-Releaed-for-Adobe-Reader-and-Acrobat-183239.shtml>
49. *February 9, The Register* – (International) **Linux vulnerable to Windows-style autorun exploits.** A security researcher has demonstrated how it might be possible to perform autorun-style attacks against weakly secured Linux PCs. Windows worms including Conficker and Stuxnet have often spread onto networks after infected USB

sticks were plugged into PCs. This has happened automatically in cases where autorun was enabled, as it did in default on older versions of Windows until a change pushed by Microsoft February 8. With autorun-enabled, executable files run with minimal user interaction. The researcher, from IBM's X-Force security division, showed the issue of autorun causing possible mischief is not (as might have been previously thought) wholly irrelevant to Linux boxes. He developed a demo to show how it might be possible to insert a USB stick with modified code into a Ubuntu PC to get rid of a screensaver without entering a password — and display the user's desktop. The demo relied on taking advantage of a flaw in GNOME Evince document viewer.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/09/linux_autorun_problems/

50. *February 8, Computerworld* – (International) **Bug bounty program reveals 22 unpatched flaws, 5 in Office.** As it promised in 2010, the world's biggest bug bounty program released information February 7 about nearly two dozen unpatched vulnerabilities, including five in Microsoft Office, after deadlines expired. The disclosure of 22 bugs — some of them reported to their developers over 2-and-a-half years ago — resulted from a change announced 6 months ago by HP TippingPoint, whose Zero Day Initiative (ZDI) buys more bugs from independent researchers than any other program. Last August, TippingPoint said it would enforce a 6-month disclosure deadline, and would publish information about the bugs it bought if the flaws had not been patched before then. Previously, ZDI's policy was to indefinitely withhold a vulnerability after reporting it to a vendor, publishing its own advisory only after a patch had been issued. TippingPoint rolled out the first advisories for vulnerabilities whose deadlines had expired February 8. Nine of the 22 flaws were in IBM software, 5 were in Microsoft programs, 4 were in Hewlett-Packard code, and one each affected CA, EMC, Novell, and SCO.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9208647/Bug_bounty_program_reveals_22_unpatched_flaws_5_in_Office

51. *February 8, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft delivers 'big month' of patches, quashes 22 bugs.** Microsoft issued 12 security updates February 8 that patched 22 bugs in Windows, Internet Explorer (IE), Office, and its Internet server software. An analyst suspected one of the updates was released to prevent hackers from exploiting Windows 7 in the Pwn2Own contest slated to start in 4 weeks. "I think this was a strategic move by Microsoft to prevent [researchers] from using the vulnerability as a mechanism to bypass ASLR," said the director of security operations for nCircle Security, referring to the MS11-009 update that patched a bug in the JScript and VBScript scripting engines within Windows. At Pwn2Own, which runs March 9-11 at the CanSecWest security conference, attackers armed with unpatched vulnerabilities and corresponding exploits will try to hack browsers running on Windows 7. To do so, they must sidestep ASLR — for "address space layout randomization" — one of Windows 7's two anti-exploit technologies. Three of the 12 updates were labeled "critical," Microsoft's most serious threat ranking. The remaining nine were marked "important," the second-highest rating.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9208660/Microsoft_delivers_big_month_of_patches_quashes_22_bugs

52. *February 8, Softpedia* – (International) **Security update released for Google Chrome 9.** Less than 1 week after releasing the first Chrome 9 stable version, Google just pushed out a security update to address several security vulnerabilities in the browser. The new 9.0.597.94 build has been released to the stable channel for all platforms. Starting with Chrome 9, the bundled Flash plug-in runs under the browser's sandbox, making it much more resilient to remote exploitation attacks. The new version addresses three high- and two medium-risk vulnerabilities, including: A high severity use-after-free memory error in SVG font faces; a stale pointer with anonymous block handling; a separate stale pointer in animation event handling; a failure to terminate process on out-of-memory condition, a bug that carries a medium risk; and an out-of-bounds memory read error in plug-in handling.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Security-Update-Released-for-Google-Chrome-9-183227.shtml>

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>

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

Communications Sector

53. *February 7, New York Times* – (National) **Copper prices and incidences of copper theft rise.** From Hawaii to Florida, copper thieves have electrocuted themselves and caused electrical and telephone failures and street light blackouts. Many municipalities, which have been hard hit by budget deficits, have been unable to afford repairs. “We believe this is a national security issue,” said the executive director of the Coalition Against Copper Theft, an advocacy group in Washington D.C. that includes telecommunications firms, power companies, and railroads. “The only thing keeping it from being an epidemic is that scrap yards are now scrutinizing the material. But theft is still rampant.” Copper is near an all-time high, which has translated into \$4-per-pound prices for scrap copper at salvage yards. The price in 2009 was about \$1.25 per pound. “If you watch the price of copper, you notice a correlation between the price and the rate of theft,” said the security director for Frontier Communications, which has seen an increase in thefts of its power and broadband lines in the 27 states it serves. Last month, the FBI said it was planning to update a 2008 report that called theft of copper wire a threat to the nation’s “critical infrastructure.” The American Electrical Power Company in Ohio said it had begun to replace its copper wire with wire that contains less copper and is also more difficult to cut through. The company has also put

up signs letting prospective thieves know the new brand of wire is not worth stealing.
Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/08/us/08theft.html>

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

54. *February 8, KTVT 11 Dallas/Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Lancaster teen arrested for Super Bowl bomb threat.** A Lancaster, Texas teenager is in jail after the FBI and police said he made a threat to blow up Cowboys Stadium February 6 during the Super Bowl. The 17-year-old faces a charge of reporting a false alarm after authorities traced a phone call he made from his parent's home. Police said the Lancaster High School student made a 911 call while watching the Super Bowl pregame show at home and told the dispatcher he had three bombs planted in the stadium, and that they would detonate in 26 minutes. Police said the call caused Super Bowl security to scramble even though it turned out to be a hoax. The teenager could face federal charges but authorities said it is easier to try him as an adult by filing state charges.

Source: <http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2011/02/08/lancaster-teen-arrested-for-super-bowl-bomb-threat/>

55. *February 7, WXIN 59 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Buildings evacuated in downtown New Castle.** Part of downtown New Castle, Indiana, was closed February 7 after a buildup of snow and ice caused a building's roof to collapse and adjacent structures to buckle and shift. The building at 1405 Broad Street, home to the Three Rivers Solid Waste Management District, suffered the most damage. "We've got four buildings that are possibly an issue," said the New Castle fire chief. The occupants had no idea just how bad things had gotten until February 6 in the morning when they could not even get inside. "We've had to use crowbars to lift the door to get it open," said the Three Rivers Solid Waste Management district director. The store's entire ceiling caved in, leaving a large gaping hole in the roof and putting the tenants' safety at immediate risk. Fire officials evacuated the buildings. Officials said they did not want to take any chances and closed the area between 14th and 15th Streets to traffic as well. Engineers will decide if the buildings will be demolished.

Source: <http://www.fox59.com/business/wxin-ice-storm-damage-buildings-evacuated-in-new-castle-20110207,0,1274758.story>

For another story, see item [59](#)

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

National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *February 9, Macon Telegraph* – (Georgia) **Fire burns superintendent's house at Ocmulgee Monument.** Macon-Bibb County firefighters battled a fire February 9 at Macon's Ocmulgee National Monument in Georgia. Crews were called just before 3:40 a.m. when a fire alarm sounded, and firefighters arrived to find the superintendent's

house ablaze. No one was believed to be inside the house, but Macon police were called to investigate a possible break-in.

Source: <http://www.macon.com/2011/02/09/1444501/fire-burns-superintendents-house.html>

57. *February 8, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Human remains found in N. Idaho fire.** Authorities in northern Idaho said they found human remains in the rubble of a historic tribal building that burned to the ground. Coeur d’Alene tribal police discovered the remains in the 102-year-old Sister’s Building in DeSmet while investigating the cause of the blaze. The Tribal police chief said February 8 he is working with the FBI and the state fire marshal to determine the victim’s identity. The Sister’s Building was built in 1908 and used as a boarding school until 1974. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been used for educational and cultural programs, as well as to house telecommunications equipment.
Source: <http://www.kivity.com/Global/story.asp?S=13994466>

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

Dams Sector

58. *February 9, Berkshire Eagle* – (Massachusetts) **Dam passes PCB test.** Concerns about PCB contamination at the site of a proposed dam removal project in Pittsfield, Massachusetts have been alleviated because state officials deemed the site clean. Sackett Brook Dam, located in the Massachusetts Audubon Society’s Canoe Meadows wildlife sanctuary, has been targeted by the city for removal to offset natural habitat losses associated with the Pittsfield Municipal Airport expansion. During a second round of testing last summer, PCBs were detected in one of many samples taken behind the dam. That finding necessitated a third round of tests in January, results of which have come back negative. Once the city receives formal acknowledgment from the state department of environmental protection on the site’s status, a finalized feasibility report will be prepared in order to receive a dam removal permit.
Source: http://www.berkshireeagle.com/local/ci_17334119
59. *February 8, Nashville Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **Gaylord to raise levee at Opryland Hotel.** Gaylord Entertainment plans to spend \$12 million to increase the height of the levee that protects the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee, to a 500-year level, the Gaylord CEO and chairman said February 8. Construction will begin this spring and should wrap up in spring of 2012. The company said the design would be “aesthetically pleasing and sensitive to adjacent property owners.” The private levee that runs the length of the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center complex had been built to a 100-year level and failed to keep the Cumberland River from spilling into parts of the hotel and the Grand Ole Opry House in May. The hotel closed for 6 months before reopening in mid-November. The higher levee will help the company raise its flood insurance coverage while substantially reducing the annual premium, he said. The hotel had just \$50 million in flood coverage. The net impact of the flood was \$150 million after insurance proceeds and tax refunds.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110208/BUSINESS01/110208026/2092/BUSINESS01/Gaylord-raise-levee-Opryland-Hotel>

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

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Web site: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2267

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.