



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 16 February 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to WCBD 2 Charleston, firefighters from three counties and about a dozen departments spent more than 18 hours battling a blaze after an explosion and fire at a fertilizer plant in Hartsville, South Carolina. (See item [3](#))
- The Asheville Citizen-Times reports that the North Carolina Forest Service and several other fire crews fought to contain a 400-acre wildfire that began inside Chimney Rock State Park. (See item [51](#))

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Energy Sector

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

1. *February 15, Fargo Inforum* – (National) **Commissioner questions reliability of Xcel’s infrastructure.** A North Dakota regulator said the prolonged Xcel power outage the weekend of February 12 in parts of Fargo and West Fargo raises questions about whether the utility has kept up its infrastructure. A member of the North Dakota Public Service Commission noted Xcel has had several power failures or surges in Fargo and Grand Forks in recent months. “I think it raises the larger issue: How old is the Xcel

infrastructure, and is it time to upgrade the system?” An Xcel spokeswoman, said the system overall remains “very reliable.” Meanwhile, investigators February 14 continued to delve into the power failure, which affected an estimated 16,000 customers in Fargo and West Fargo. The failure stemmed from equipment failure at a power substation at Main Avenue and 45th Street in Fargo. Xcel is investigating to determine whether any customers experienced power surges associated with the failure. Repairs to the damaged substation continue, along with the investigation.

Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/308733/>

2. *February 14, Platts* – (National) **PHMSA says states, feds must ‘step up’ gas pipeline safety together.** State and federal regulators must work together to increase public confidence after a string of natural gas pipeline explosions, the deputy administrator of the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) said February 14. “I intend to lead a push for better-quality risk assessment and records management. If you don’t know what you have in the ground, it’s often hard to manage the risk of that,” the deputy administrator said. The gas pipeline industry was already facing scrutiny for last year’s deadly explosion on a Pacific Gas and Electric transmission line in San Bruno, California, before a trio of recent blasts heightened the attention. PHMSA’s associate administrator for pipeline safety, called the Allentown, Pennsylvania, and San Bruno, California, blasts “major tragedies,” but added the public should not overlook significant progress made by the pipeline industry in the past decade to adopt PHMSA’s integrity management program.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/NaturalGas/6830613>

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Chemical Industry Sector

3. *February 15, WCBD 2 Charleston and Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Massive fire burns fertilizer plant in Hartsville.** State officials planned to send a second team back to a burning fertilizer plant in Hartsville, South Carolina, the afternoon of February 15, to make a second check of smoke billowing from a fire. A South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control spokesman said the fire was still sending up a lot of smoke. Previous testing found no hazardous chemicals in the air. There have been no injuries reported from the fire that started the night of February 14 at the Agrium Rainbow plant. Firefighters from at least three counties and about a dozen departments worked February 15 to cool hot spots of the fire that began after an explosion just before 7 p.m. the night before. The Hartsville Rainbow Operations plant, also known as the Royster-Clark plant, is part of agricultural services conglomerate Agrium and manufactures Rainbow NPK fertilizer, according to the company’s Web site. About 50 people work at the plant, and 7 people were in the plant when the fire started. After the initial fire and explosions, flames quickly spread through surrounding woods, according to reports. The fire brigade from nearby Sonoco Products Co. was put on alert to protect its plant. As of 9:16 p.m., firefighters reported the Sonoco plant was shut down and evacuated with just the fire brigade on site, according to broadcast information. Hazardous materials and fumes from the fire were the prime concern

facing city officials. In addition to Hartsville Fire Department personnel, units from Sonoco's fire brigade, Darlington, Darlington County, Florence, West Florence, Windy Hill, Howe Springs, Lee County, and Alligator Rural fire departments were either fighting the fire or were standing by for additional response within the city.

Source: <http://www2.counton2.com/news/2011/feb/14/14/massive-fire-hartsville-sc-ar-1463795/>

4. *February 15, WPEC 12 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **Acid-burned body found in truck on I-95 in West Palm Beach.** Firefighters found an acid-burned body stuffed in a trash bag inside a pickup truck along I-95 in Florida, the latest twist in an investigation that started as a chemical spill with the driver and his 10-year-old son overcome by fumes the morning of February 14. The fumes inside a small pest control truck overwhelmed two people from Miami and at least four firefighters who responded to help, Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) reports. FHP reports that at 7 a.m. a road ranger spotted a truck pulled over on the shoulder of northbound Interstate 95 at Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard. Traffic was slowed much of the day and continued to be hampered by a blocked lane while police and haz-mat crews tended to the situation into the morning of February 14. The victims were being treated for chemical burns to their lungs at a hospital. West Palm Beach Fire Rescue reported that four firefighters were treated and released for chemical exposure. It is not immediately clear what created the fumes, but authorities said it was some sort of acid used for cleaning metal, and not a pesticide. When firefighters arrived, they found the chemical in an unlabeled plastic container, and then made the find in the plastic bag.

Source: <http://www.cbs12.com/news/beach-4731032-palm-west.html>

For another story, see item [21](#)

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

5. *February 15, New London Day* – (Connecticut) **Radiological barriers repaired at Millstone.** Dominion has repaired a system that houses barriers designed to prevent radiological releases at Millstone Power Station in Waterford, Connecticut. No actual radiological releases occurred as a result of the condition, a Dominion spokesman said February 14. A Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman confirmed that statement. Company operators were conducting an inspection between 2 and 3 a.m. February 11 at the Unit 3 reactor when they identified three tears in two rubber covers that seal the holes pipes make cutting through a wall in the emergency safeguard features building, the Dominion and NRC spokesmen said. The building is adjacent to the containment building, which houses the reactor. The covers, also known as “flexible boots,” are part of the reactor’s Supplementary Leak Collection and Release System, which acts a backup for radiological releases and helps contain them. The company had 24 hours to fix the condition or shut down. Dominion repaired the damaged covers February 11, the two spokesmen said. The reactor did not have to be shut down to complete the repairs, the Dominion spokesman said. The tears were due

to normal wear and tear, he added.

Source: <http://www.theday.com/article/20110215/BIZ02/302159989/-1/BIZ>

6. *February 14, San Diego North County Times* – (California) **Regulatory commission says some problems at nuke plant fixed.** The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station in San Diego County, California has taken another step toward re-entering the good graces of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), but the federal agency will still require extra inspections to make sure it continues to improve its safety culture. The NRC put the plant on special notice in January 2008 after regulators learned several workers had falsified records, including a fire watch specialist who lied about completing his hourly rounds at the plant from April 2001 to December 2006. The notice started an ongoing dialogue between the NRC and plant owner Southern California Edison about worker safety culture and the proper use of problem solving and detection techniques at the plant, which has two, large operating nuclear reactors. During the week of February 7-11, the federal agency released a statement, noting Edison had addressed concerns raised in the notice. But an NRC spokeswoman said San Onofre still must address additional concerns raised by plant inspectors in subsequent investigations the past 2 years. Because of the problems, San Onofre has three resident inspectors ---- one more than the two usually found at plants. The spokeswoman said the extra inspector will remain at the plant, and additional “focused” inspections, beyond basic checkups every nuclear plant receives, will continue until the NRC is satisfied Edison has fixed all of its problems in worker performance and problem identification. In a statement sent February 14 to the North County Times, Edison officials said the plant has increased training and accountability programs to make sure workers are no longer able to intentionally falsify records.
Source: http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/sdcounty/article_25e6741d-b5f7-535e-8900-a09484e9acf6.html

7. *February 12, Ottawa Citizen* – (International) **Radioactive material thefts decline.** Incidents of missing radioactive materials are dropping dramatically, easing concerns of extremists detonating crude, low-level radioactive “dirty bombs” to sow panic. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) reported that five radioactive sources, typically found in measuring and analytical equipment, were lost or stolen last year and five more in 2009. That compares with a 2005-08 annual average of 15, with a record 21 missing devices in 2007. The news softens previous criticism about the effectiveness of federal controls over nuclear materials. Under pressure to improve its vigilance, the commission in 2006 became the first nuclear regulator in the world to implement a national registry and sealed source tracking system, where thousands of businesses and institutions are required to report to on the status of their CNSC-licensed nuclear devices. “Licensees have become more aware of the importance of maintaining accurate inventories, and understand CNSC expectations and the level of importance placed on safety and security of all sealed sources,” the agency said in a February 11 statement, adding more than 1,400 inspections are done annually at sites with high-and medium-risk sources. Six sources remain missing from 2009-2010, but all are rated at low or very low risk for potential harm to human health. Very high risk sources have never been reported missing in Canada.

Source:

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/Radioactive+material+thefts+decline/4271185/story.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

8. *February 15, Global Security Newswire* – (National) **Pentagon budget may omit funds for promised ICBM modernization study.** The U.S. Defense Department (DOD) budget request for the 2012 fiscal year omits funds that would have allowed the Air Force to study the prospects for a new intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) to replace the current Minuteman 3 arsenal, according to a senior service official. “To my knowledge, there’s no funding for a future ICBM,” the budget deputy to the Air Force comptroller, said February 14 at a news conference as the federal request was delivered to Congress. Her remarks appeared contrary to those of the Pentagon’s top budget official, though, leaving it uncertain as to when the effort would be funded and at what dollar amount. DOD’s comptroller insisted February 14 there is funding for studying the future ICBM, though he was unable to say how much and it remained unclear if he was referring to 2012 or later years. The Pentagon declared in its spring 2010 Nuclear Posture Review — a major assessment of strategy, forces and readiness — that while “a decision on any follow-on ICBM is not needed for several years, studies to inform that decision are needed now.” The Minuteman 3 first entered the force in 1970 and production of the missile ended 8 years later. The system has undergone a number of upgrades over the years but must be replaced by 2030, Air Force officials have said. Source: http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20110215_9437.php

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *February 14, The New New Internet* – (International) **New scam targets online sellers.** The FBI’s cyber complaint center has released a report warning about a new scam targeting sellers on online marketplace Web sites. According to IC3, the ploy generates fake receipts through an executable file circulating on hacking forums recently, the center said. The generator asks the would-be victim to disclose information about item name, price, and the date the order was taken. As soon as the victim hits “Generate,” an HTML file is created in the program folder. The program makes what appears to be a legitimate marketplace receipt and a copy of the “Printable Order Summary,” similar to documents resulting from legitimate marketplace

purchases. Details, such as “Total before tax” and “Sales tax,” make the receipt extra convincing. According to IC3, many sellers on these online markets will ask the buyer to send them a copy of the receipt in the event of missing orders or any other issues that may arise during or after the Web transaction.

Source: <http://www.thenewnewinternet.com/2011/02/14/new-scam-targets-online-sellers/>

10. *February 14, WNYW 5 New York* – (New York) **FBI: Holiday Bandit hits 6th New York City bank.** The so-called “Holiday Bandit” struck another bank in New York City, New York, February 13, the FBI announced. The 35-year-old bandit walked into a Capital One branch in Borough Park at 9:43 a.m., gave a teller a note demanding money, and showed off a black handgun, the FBI said. He apparently was not happy with the amount of cash that teller gave him so he moved on to another teller and demanded more money, the FBI said. Then the robber — wearing a black hat, dark sunglasses, a maroon coat, and light blue jeans, brown shoes, and carrying a black messenger bag — took off on foot. He has now robbed at least six banks in New York, the FBI said. Three banks are in Queens, two in Brooklyn, and one on Staten Island. The FBI describes the “Holiday Bandit” as a white male, about 6 feet 5 inches, and approximately 200 pounds.
Source: http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/local_news/brooklyn/fbi-holiday-bandit-hits-6th-new-york-city-bank-20110214-akd
11. *February 14, Wicked Local Brookline* – (Massachusetts; Rhode Island) **Man wanted for Brookline bank robberies arrested in Rhode Island.** A man wanted in connection with four bank robberies in Massachusetts, three in Brookline and one in South Attleboro, was arrested in Rhode Island February 14, following an investigation by law enforcement agencies in two states. The 36-year-old was arrested around 10:30 a.m., at a Providence, Rhode Island hotel after he allegedly robbed the Pawtucket Credit Union in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, according to a statement from the FBI’s Boston Field Office. At first he was charged on a warrant for the Massachusetts robberies; later the U.S. Attorney for Rhode Island charged him with the Pawtucket robbery. The suspect allegedly robbed three banks in Brookline: A Citizens Bank branch January 26, a Sovereign Bank branch February 4 and a Brookline Bank branch on February 7. He allegedly robbed a Citizens Bank in South Attleboro February 10. The arrest was the result of a joint investigation by the Brookline Police Department, the South Attleboro Police Department, the Seekonk Police Department, the Pawtucket Police Department, the Rhode Island State Police Violent Fugitive Task Force, U.S. Marshals Service, and the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force, the FBI said.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/brookline/news/x1240514438/Man-wanted-for-Brookline-bank-robberies-arrested-in-Rhode-Island>
12. *February 11, KXAS 5 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **FBI: Irving bank officer stole \$2.7 million.** The FBI arrested a former Irving, Texas banker February 10 and accused her of stealing \$2.7 million over 2 years and using the money to buy two large houses in Ellis County and several vehicles. The woman, an officer with the Bank of New York Mellon, allegedly stole \$2,719,674 by fraudulently making 40 wire transfers from

her bank into her personal account from 2008 to 2010, according to a federal grand jury indictment. The suspect pleaded not guilty and was released on bond after surrendering her passport, court records show. Agents seized several vehicles they claimed the suspect bought with stolen funds, including a 2010 Buick Lucerne, a 2007 Dodge Ram 2500 quad pickup, a 2008 Dodge Durango sport utility vehicle, and a 2002 Freightliner diesel tractor. Prosecutors claim she also bought two homes in Palmer. Her attorney said she lives in one of the homes and family members live in the other.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local-beat/FBI-Irving-Bank-Officer-Stole-2719674-115969294.html>

13. *February 11, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Illinois) **Suburban man allegedly swindled \$105 million from approximately 400 victims in investment fraud scheme.** A suburban Chicago, Illinois man was charged with allegedly engaging in an investment fraud scheme, swindling more than \$105 million from approximately 400 victims who invested in funds he purported to operate. Various U.S. Department of Justice officials announced the suspect was charged with eight counts of mail fraud in a criminal indictment filed February 10. The suspect allegedly misused money he raised from investors for his own benefit, and to make Ponzi-type payments to investors. The 51-year-old male, formerly of the U.S. Virgin Islands, currently resides in Barrington, Illinois, and will be arraigned at a later date in U.S. District Court. The indictment alleged the suspect was the principal officer and sole shareholder of Kenzie Financial Management, a U.S. Virgin Islands corporation; the sole manager and member of Kenzie Services, LLC, a corporation located in Charlestown, Nevis, West Indies; the president of Draseena Funds Group, Corp., an Illinois corporation; the manager of DN Management Company, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, and the manager of Nerium Management Company, an Illinois corporation. According to the charges, through these corporate entities, the defendant controlled 12 investment funds collectively known as “the Kenzie Funds.” The suspect allegedly offered and sold to the public investments in the various Kenzie Funds in the form of membership interests and limited partnership interests.

Source: <http://chicago.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/cg021111.htm>

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Transportation Sector

14. *February 15, KXRM 21 Colorado Springs* – (Colorado) **Geologist inspecting rockslide on U.S. 50.** A Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) geologist was on the scene and evaluating the site of a rockslide on U.S. Highway 50 near Cotopaxi February 15, to see if it is stable or if additional scaling or mitigation is necessary. A CDOT spokesperson said crews have been unable to clear the pile of rocks 15 to 20 feet deep, which fell on the highway the afternoon of February 14, due to slope instability but will begin work as soon as the area is deemed safe. Because crews have not yet cleared the slide, it has not yet been determined if there is damage to

the roadway. Both directions of the highway remained closed late the morning of February 15 from State Highway 9 at the Royal to Gorge to Salida. Through traffic was being detoured via State Highway 9 to Hartsel, U.S. 24 west to Johnsons Village, and U.S. 285 south to Salida and Poncha Springs.

Source: <http://www.coloradoconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=581133>

15. *February 15, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Train safeguards disabled in Chicago crash that hurt 4.** Federal authorities said railroad safeguards at a train crossing on Chicago’s South Side were inactive during a crash that left four people injured February 14. Two vehicles hit black tanker cars of a stopped freight train around 3 a.m. in Chicago, Illinois. Federal Railroad Administration officials told the Chicago Tribune that automated gates and warning devices were disabled because they had been malfunctioning due to a buildup of road salt that interfered with circuits. Authorities said it is likely the drivers could not see the train cars in the dark or without any other safeguards. Federal railroad officials are collecting evidence from the scene and checking maintenance records. Residents in the area said they had noticed issues with the crossing in recent weeks.
Source: <http://www.rrstar.com/updates/x1240515198/Train-safeguards-disabled-in-Chicago-crash-that-hurt-4>

16. *February 15, KXLH 9 Helena and Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **Montana bomb scare ruled false alarm.** A possible bomb scare on an Amtrak train in Northwestern Montana February 14 turned out to be a false alarm. The train was traveling between East Glacier and Browning when it stopped because a passenger made the threat of a bomb on board. All passengers were immediately taken off the train and to a local school. FBI personnel then swept through the train with dogs and found no threat. The individual who made the bomb threat is currently in custody in Glacier County. All passengers are safe and were able to re-board the train. The threat delayed service for about a dozen trains on the Hi-Line in Browning, a BNSF Railway Co. spokesman said.
Source: <http://www.kxlh.com/news/montana-bomb-scare-ruled-false-alarm/>

17. *February 14, Dayton Daily News* – (Ohio) **5 planes destroyed by arson at Brookville Airpark.** Fire officials determined arson was the cause of a February 14 fire that destroyed two hangars and five airplanes at the Brookville Air Park in Montgomery County, Ohio. Investigators with the division of state fire marshal said they “found evidence indicating the fires were intentional set,” a spokesman with the Ohio Department of Commerce said. Firefighters were called to 9386 W. National Road at 2:21 a.m. The hangars are located 580 feet apart, and the investigation showed both were set on fire. The east side hangar contained three single-engine aircrafts, and the west side hangar had two aircrafts (one single-engine and one twin-engine) that were destroyed. Fire officials said one of the hangars was also a repair shop that had some propane tanks inside. The Brookville fire chief said the investigation was being handled by the state fire marshal, Brookville Fire Department, Clay Township Police, and the Federal Aviation Administration.
Source: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/dayton-news/5-planes-destroyed-by-arson-at-brookville-airpark-1081092.html>

18. *February 14, KPTV 12 Portland* – (Oregon; Washington) **Vancouver mudslide halts Amtrak trains.** A mudslide near the Felida neighborhood of Vancouver, Washington caused a disruption in Amtrak train service February 14. Crews cleared mud and debris from about a 20-foot section of track because of the February 12 morning slide. Shuttle buses carried passengers between Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. Amtrak officials said they hoped to have the track cleared and service restored sometime February 15.
Source: <http://www.kptv.com/news/26866158/detail.html>

19. *February 14, Dayton Daily News* – (Ohio) **Small truck fire forces 20-minute evacuation of airport tower.** A small truck fire around 9:30 a.m. February 14 triggered a 20-minute evacuation of the Dayton International Airport control tower in Dayton, Ohio. An airport spokeswoman said the bed of a subcontractor’s pickup truck caught fire. The cause was not immediately known. She said the tower was evacuated and air traffic control transferred to Indianapolis, Indiana. She said she did not know of any delays or flight diversions because of the small fire. There were no injuries.
Source: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/dayton-news/small-truck-fire-forces-20-minute-evacuation-of-airport-tower-1081103.html>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [4](#), and [32](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

20. *February 15, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* – (Ohio) **FBI: Powder mailed to Lorain woman not toxic.** A powdery substance mailed to a Lorain, Ohio woman the week of February 7 has been determined not to be toxic, according to the FBI. A spokesman for the FBI’s Cleveland office said further testing of the powder will be needed to identify exactly what it is. The envelope, which bore a North Carolina postmark, was sent to a New Mexico Avenue woman February 10. It said “Happy 75th Birthday,” according to a Lorain police report. The woman, who is 50, said that in addition to the powder, the envelope also contained a handwritten note that said “Have fun with Al.” The woman said that might be a reference to alcohol because she is a recovering alcoholic. She also has said she did not recognize the handwriting and her name was misspelled. After the powder spilled out of the envelope, the woman put it into a Ziploc bag, put her shirt in the laundry and washed her hands. The woman, who did not become ill, also cleaned up the spilled powder. The FBI spokesman said the FBI and Lorain police are running down leads on who might have sent the envelope.
Source: <http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2011/02/15/fbi-powder-mailed-to-lorain-woman-not-toxic/>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *February 15, WWBT 12 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Chemical spill at Boar’s Head plant in Petersburg.** Nearly a dozen people were recovering after a chemical leak February 14 at a Boar’s Head Meat Plant in Petersburg, Virginia. The plant was located in the 1900 block of Industrial Road. The leak happened in the production area of the plant where more than two dozen employees were working. Several of them began coughing and choking. Those workers were taken to the hospital. “We were called for the release of a chemical called ozone — it was in the vapor form,” said the Petersburg Fire Department chief. Twenty-five employees were in the area of the chemical release. Investigators said seven people were exposed to the chemical. For several hours, police closed down the road leading to the plant. By 8 p.m. the building was deemed safe. The cause of the leak has not been determined.
Source: <http://www.nbc12.com/Global/story.asp?S=14029866>
22. *February 14, Western Farm Press* – (International) **USDA uncovers scheme to import fake Chinese organic food.** On February 11, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) February 11 publicly released evidence of attempted fraud by a Chinese organic agricultural marketer. The agency’s National Organic Program (NOP) made public a fraudulent organic certificate produced by an uncertified supplier in China. The Chinese firm used the counterfeit certificate to represent non-organic crops, including soybeans, millet, and buckwheat, as certified organic. A French USDA accredited certifying agent whose name was illegally used on the fraudulent document, brought this issue to the attention of NOP officials.
Source: <http://westernfarmpress.com/management/usda-uncovers-scheme-import-fake-chinese-organic-food>
23. *February 12, Associated Press* – (California) **25 injured when taxi plows into crowd in San Diego.** A taxi driver, who may have passed out or fallen asleep, plowed slowly through a crowd on a sidewalk in a popular restaurant and nightclub zone in San Diego, California, February 13, severing the leg of one woman and injuring more than two dozen other people before some in the crowd beat him, police said. The crash occurred about 2 a.m. in the heart of the busy Gaslamp District, according to a police sergeant. Witnesses said the cab was traveling around 15 miles an hour. The 48-year-old cab driver sustained a broken nose after being beaten by people in the crowd, who also smashed windows on the taxi, he said. Security guards from a nearby nightclub intervened and detained the driver until police arrived, and he was transported to a hospital. The crash did not appear to be intentional, and alcohol was not involved, an officer said. Police said 25 people were injured. All but two were taken to area hospitals, and all were expected to survive. At least 17 people who were transported to hospitals had injuries such as broken bones, cuts, and bruises, a fire department spokesman said. Twelve ambulances were used, some of them making more than one hospital trip, according to the San Diego Union-Tribune. Fifty-five firefighters, paramedics, and fire department support personnel responded.
Source: <http://www.macon.com/2011/02/12/1449031/taxi-plows-into-crowd-in-san-diego.html>

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

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Water Sector

24. *February 15, Canandaigua Messenger Post* – (New York) **Richmond residents still under boil water order.** About 2,000 residents in Richmond, New York, were expected to be unable to use their water service until at least February 15 as a boil water order remained in effect following pressure issues from a water main break the weekend of February 11 and 12. The water superintendent said the must stay in place until the state department of health approves water samples. The latest results were expected to be available around 11 a.m. February 15.
Source: <http://www.mpnnow.com/life/x1055394682/Richmond-residents-still-under-boil-water-order>
25. *February 15, Zanesville Times Recorder* – (Ohio) **South Zanesville water plant could be closed several days.** A boil alert affecting 1,100 water customers could be in place for several days after problems surfaced February 14 with the South Zanesville Water Plant in Ohio. The plant likely will be shut down for several days to determine the cause of the problem, the mayor said. Water will be piped in from the City of Zanesville’s system to fill up the village’s water tank and maintain pressure in the lines. “If we shut it down without the city water and depressurize the system, we could have water breaks all over,” he said. “This will allow us to supplement our water and fill up the tank, which is down to about half its level right now, while we look for the problem.” Once the city water is flowing, the village’s water will be tested. The mayor said there could be a few small leaks in the water line system and a blockage at the plant’s water filters.
Source:
<http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/article/20110215/NEWS01/102150304/1002/news01/South-Zanesville-water-plant-could-closed-several-days>
26. *February 11, WBAL 11 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **School gas odor probe finds chemicals in ground water.** An investigation into the source of gas fumes that caused the evacuation of a Baltimore County school in Maryland in 2010 has found several chemicals in groundwater near the school. In September, students at St. Clements School on Chesaco Avenue in Rosedale were forced out of their classrooms because of the odor. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted tests at the school and a nearby Royal Farms gas station. The results found concentrations of petroleum in groundwater near a sewer line, and higher than acceptable levels of benzene. The gasoline additive MTBE was also found in some temporary wells, investigators said. The MDE is still monitoring abatement efforts at a home directly behind the gas station where a gas leak forced the evacuation of the family who lived there in December 2009. If gas odors reoccur at the school, the MDE said it may order Royal Farms to develop a work plan to handle the vapors.
Source: <http://www.wbaltv.com/news/26836755/detail.html>

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *February 15, WOAI 4 San Antonio* – (Texas) **Parking garage collapses in the Medical Center.** Two workers were injured in a building collapse on the northwest side of San Antonio, Texas, February 14. Emergency crews were called around 11:30 a.m. after a University Hospital parking garage under construction collapsed. Witnesses reported hearing an extremely loud sound and seeing construction workers running from the site as the garage came down and a huge cloud of dust covered the area. About 1,500 tons of concrete and steel, or 7 stories of columns and beams came down. Two workers were rescued from the debris and rushed to the hospital with serious but non-life threatening injuries, a hospital spokesperson said. Haz-mat crews continued to monitor the construction zone. “Oxygen and settling tanks were crushed by the debris,” explained a San Antonio Fire Department chief. “With [construction] vehicles, we have the potential of gas. All of those products of combustion are underneath the rubble right now.” The garage that collapsed was an addition to the hospital’s new garage. Construction officials said a couple of structural beams failed, causing the collapse. Source: http://www.woai.com/news/local/story/Parking-garage-collapses-in-the-Medical-Center/VKqz71IIxUOTozRtI_RBiw.csp
28. *February 15, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Feds make more arrests in major Medicare fraud case.** Federal agents February 15 arrested as many as 16 people in South Florida accused of participating in the nation’s largest mental health care racket. Among those charged with Medicare fraud in Miami-Dade and Broward counties are doctors, health care administrators, and other employees who worked for Miami-based American Therapeutic, according to sources familiar with the case. The defendants were expected to have their first appearances in federal court February 15. In October, the federal grand jury indicted American Therapeutic and four senior executives, accusing them of scheming to loot \$200 million from Medicare by billing the program for purported counseling sessions that were either not necessary or not provided. Three executives were also charged with paying kickbacks to patient recruiters. The case is headed for trial in August. It is being handled by the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Miami, the FBI, and the Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Inspector General. Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/02/15/2067607/feds-make-more-arrests-in-major.html>
29. *February 14, Ogemaw County Herald* – (Michigan) **Hospital employee arrested on charges of threats of terrorism.** An employee of the West Branch Regional Medical Center in West Branch, Michigan was arrested after allegedly making threats of violence at the hospital, according to a press release from the West Branch City Police Department. According to the release, the 32-year-old Gladwin resident and employee at the medical center was allegedly overheard making several threats of violence by multiple witnesses January 28. A warrant was issued for the man’s arrest by an Ogemaw County prosecutor for threats of terrorism. He was arrested at his residence February 10, and was housed in the Ogemaw County Jail. His arraignment began

February 11, and was scheduled to conclude February 15.

Source:

http://www.ogemawherald.com/detail/88029.html?content_source=&category_id=1&search_filter=&list_type=&order_by=&order_sort=&content_class=1&sub_type=&town_id=7

30. *February 14, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Number of Playboy Mansion outbreak victims grows to 170.** Los Angeles, California, County health officials said February 14 that 170 people fell ill after attending or working at a fundraiser at the Playboy Mansion, but they do not believe the outbreak has spread beyond those associated with the event. The possible outbreak of legionellosis, or Pontiac fever, affected people at the February 3 DOMAINfest Global Conference in Santa Monica, “with symptoms mostly consisting of fever, chills, general discomfort (malaise) and some cough,” according to a statement by the county Department of Public Health (DPH). DPH was notified February 11 of a “suspected respiratory infection outbreak” among those associated with the conference, and officials were still identifying and contacting possible victims February 14. “The department is investigating several locations associated with this conference, including the Playboy Mansion in Holmby Hills,” the statement said. “At this time, Public Health has not determined that the source of exposure is limited to a specific location. The department is working to conclusively identify the source of exposure and the likely cause of illness for this suspected outbreak.” The Centers for Disease Control assisted with the investigation. “As a number of conference attendees live outside of Los Angeles County, Public Health is working with surrounding county health departments, the California Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in this investigation,” the statement said.

Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/02/playboy-mansion-outbreak.html?lanow>

31. *February 11, Center for Infectious Disease Research & Policy News* – (National) **US flu activity rises, shifts toward 2009 H1N1 strain.** The nation’s flu activity increased again for the fourth week in a row, and for the first time the number of specimens testing positive for the 2009 H1N1 virus topped the H3N2 strain, which for the past several weeks had dominated, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said February 11. Most indicators have increased, including doctor’s visits for flu-like illness. That marker rose to 4.6 percent, up from 4 percent the week before, which puts the level well above the national baseline of 2.5 percent. The only one of the CDC’s 10 regions where doctor’s visits for flu were still below the regional baseline is the one that includes Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, and Nevada. Flu also expanded its reach and intensity the week of February 7, with 37 states now reporting widespread activity, 7 more than the previous week. Eleven pediatric flu deaths were reported the week of February 7, raising the total for the season to 30 from 18 states. Of the newly reported fatalities, 4 were linked to influenza B, 2 to 2009 H1N1, 1 to H3N2, and 4 to undetermined influenza A subtypes.

Source:

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/swineflu/news/feb1111flu-jw.html>

Government Facilities Sector

32. *February 15, WTOP 103.5 FM Washington D.C.* – (District of Columbia) **14th St., Penn. Ave. reopens in NW following fire.** All lanes of 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington D.C. reopened after a fire February 15 that shut down streets around the Ronald Reagan Building. The fire had closed 14th Street entirely between Pennsylvania and Constitution avenues. Eastbound Pennsylvania Avenue at 14th Street was also closed. Only certain maintenance staff were allowed to reenter the building. Guards told other building employees they would not be allowed access until after 11 a.m. The Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and Cisco Systems are among some of the tenants of the building on Freedom Plaza. A grease fire broke out in the building's food court, D.C. Fire & EMS said. Firefighters got the fire under control after it got into the duct work. All of these ducts had to be checked for fires before the building could be cleared, a D.C. Fire spokesperson said. D.C. Fire left the scene after 9 a.m. No one was injured.

Source: <http://www.wtop.com/?nid=109&sid=2272258>

33. *February 15, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **11-year-old charged with explosive device at Morristown school.** Police in Tennessee charged an 11-year-old boy February 14 with bringing an explosive device to school after finding a modified dry erase marker in his bookbag. The incident occurred at West View Middle School on Indian Path in Morristown, according to a release from the Morristown Police Department. The student was charged with possession and manufacture of an explosive device. He was being held February 15 at Hamblen County Juvenile Detention pending a hearing in juvenile court on whether he will be released or held until trial. A second juvenile who allegedly helped construct the device also was arrested, police said. The Hamblen County Sheriff's Office handled that aspect of the probe. Morristown police said the discovery was prompted by an allegation the 11-year-old student possessed narcotics. An officer watched as school administrators searched the boy's backpack, when they found the dry erase marker in a plastic bag.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/feb/15/11-year-old-charged-explosive-device-morristown-sc/>

34. *February 14, Greenwich Time* – (Connecticut) **Explosion, fire contained at Greenwich Country Day School.** A propane tank exploded and a fire broke out February 11 in the basement of an under-construction performing arts center at Greenwich Country Day School in Greenwich, Connecticut. The school had been dismissed at noon, but 15 students and some staff were still on campus when the explosion and fire occurred around 3:30 p.m. The students were working in another building on the Old Church Road campus at the time and were in no danger, the school's headmaster said. A construction worker discovered the fire in the basement, which is separate from other school structures. It is completely fenced off from other buildings. "The fire department were here within 5 minutes of the 911 call and they

contained it 10 minutes after that,” the headmaster said. The 15 students were picked up by their parents. Greenwich firefighters were able to douse the flames quickly, but continued applying water to cool down the propane tanks, one of which had exploded, and steel at the site. They also used the water to clear leaked propane vapors out of the basement. Career firefighters from central headquarters and the North Street station, along with career and volunteer firefighters from Cos Cob, Sound Beach and Glenville stations, responded to the fire, which is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/local/article/Explosion-fire-contained-at-Greenwich-Country-361428.php>

For more stories, see items [37](#) and [42](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *February 15, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Two Illinois firefighters sickened at hazmat call.** Two Elgin, Illinois firefighters and a police officer were taken to area hospitals February 14 after each became ill at the scene of a hazardous materials call at an apartment building. Emergency crews were called to investigate the haz-mat call at a 6-unit apartment building, officials said. The caller reported a strange smell that caused watery eyes and left a “metallic taste,” according to an Elgin fire department spokeswoman. Arriving crews quickly ruled out natural gas, but remained on the scene to find the cause. Eventually, the odor dissipated and no injuries were initially reported, until two firefighters and a police officer became ill and were taken to Sherman Hospital in Elgin. One firefighter and the police officer complained of chest pains, while the second firefighter developed high blood pressure symptoms. Twelve residents also were taken to area hospitals with nausea and throat irritation. The source of the odor has yet to be determined.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/two-illinois-firefighters-sickened-hazmat-call>

36. *February 14, Associated Press* – (International) **Gunmen kill top police commander in Mexico.** Gunmen ambushed and killed a top police commander and then set his car on fire in the northern Mexican border state of Nuevo Leon, authorities said February 14. His body was found February 13 inside a smoldering car abandoned in Monterrey, the state government said in a statement. Monterrey is the capital of Nuevo Leon and Mexico’s third-largest city. The victim was the director of the state’s intelligence and security center, a job he had taken in August. He was shot at least five times, the statement said. Local news media reported that the commander, who was the nephew of the former state public safety secretary, had been kidnapped hours earlier as he left his home.

Source: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=103181125>

37. *February 14, Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Top detective in Tulsa, Okla., was target of 3 who plotted his death, court affidavits claim.** Three men have been

charged with plotting to kill Tulsa, Oklahoma's top detective February 14. The Tulsa World reported a charge of conspiracy to commit murder was filed against two 25-year-old men, and a 23-year-old man. Tulsa Jail records showed all three were being held there. Bail for two of the men was set at \$3 million each, while the third is being held without bail. Affidavits supporting a search warrant said the plot was discovered by officers listening to a wiretap in January. Court documents also name one of the men as a co-conspirator in a plot to kill the Tulsa County district attorney.

Source: <http://www.kfor.com/news/sns-ap-ok--anti-detectiveplot-tulsa,0,447659.story>

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Information Technology Sector

38. *February 15, Help Net Security* – (International) **Complex Trojans and next generation malware is on the way.** While e-mail users may have noticed a significant drop in spam in recent months, cybercriminals are gaining ground with creative new phishing methods and making exploit kits more robust, reveals the Security Labs Report from M86 Security. Findings include: third-party phishing is on the rise; e-mail spam is declining, though far from dead; there have been some notable bot-net take-downs and Spamit.com has closed; and exploit kits with virus scanners are becoming increasingly popular while social network attacks are increasing.
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10594>

39. *February 14, Darkreading* – (International) **New 'boy in the browser' attacks on the rise.** A new but familiar type of attack on the rise is a spin-off of the proxy trojan, keylogger, and man-in-the-browser (MITB) attack. The "boy-in-the-browser" (BITB) attack — so named as a less sophisticated form of MITB — may be immature, but it is efficient, easy, and targeting users visiting their banks, retailers, and even Google. "It reroutes a [victim's] traffic without them being aware ... It's so effective because it's quick to modify itself so antivirus can't detect it. It's great for a quick-hit attack," said a senior security strategist with Imperva, which issued a security alert February 14 on this attack technique that its researchers spotted in the wild. BITB is basically a "dumbed-down" MITB where the attacker infects a user with its trojan, either via a drive-by download or by luring the user to click on an infected link on a site. The trojan reconfigures the victim's "hosts" file and reroutes the victim's traffic for a specific Web site — say, a bank or an online retailer — and to the attacker's own server posing as that site. Then the BITB attacker can intercept or modify the transaction. "It's difficult to detect," the researcher said, because the victim sees the same URL he or she was requesting.
Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/database-security/167901020/security/client-security/229218608/new-boy-in-the-browser-attacks-on-the-rise.html>

40. *February 14, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Spanish police hold Nintendo 'blackmailer'.** Spanish police have arrested a hacker who allegedly stole data on some 4,000 Nintendo users and then tried to blackmail the Japanese videogame developer, they said February 14. Nintendo Spain said the week of February 6 that a hacker had

stolen the personal data of some 4,000 customers in Spain, and then threatened to denounce the company for negligence to data protection authorities. Spanish police said in a statement February 14 that when Nintendo did not reply to his demands he leaked information on one of the users in an online forum and threatened to release the rest of the data. Police located the hacker, whose identity was not revealed, and arrested him in the southern province of Malaga, preventing the release of any further data.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jvEuDxaVpCXCRkWk8nAotL5iSaaA?docId=CNG.e4c0f8b05d70ed1feaeb1c2cf03f5035.2b1>

41. *February 14, Softpedia* – (International) **Plextor’s website hacked.** The U.S. Web site Plextor, a brand of optical disc drives, network storage solutions, portable hard disks, and other devices, has been defaced by a hacker February 13. The hacker, who calls himself “ViciOuS,” replaced the site’s homepage with a message in Turkish. The message appears to contain the words “disaster” and “revenge,” so the attack might be political in nature. The usual “greetz” posted by defacers were present and the hacker seems to be part of a team called “SaBoTaJ.” According to CdrInfo(dot)com, the Web site that spotted the hack, Plextor has been notified and the problem was fixed.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Plextor-s-Website-Hacked-184305.shtml>
42. *February 14, Softpedia* – (International) **(dot)edu space filled with adult spam.** Security researchers from GFI Software warned an increasingly large number of (dot)edu Web sites are being abused to push adult spam because of their poor security and lack of oversight. Searching for adult-oriented terms in the (dot)edu domain space reveals entire pages of results, most of which are on discussion boards. “Most of this seems to have kicked in since around the 4th or 5th of February, and there doesn’t seem to be much in the way of spam control or preventative measures going on right now so please be careful if looking around your university forums, official or otherwise,” a security researcher at GFI said. It is not only forums that have been abused. Among search results users can also find what appear to be compromised Web sites. Most of them are installations of popular content management solutions that have been left unpatched for a long time. The same security holes can be leveraged to create malicious doorway pages that are part of malware distribution and black hat SEO attacks. A similar trend has also been observed for governmental Web sites, which are being abused by spammers and other cybercriminals not just in the United States, but internationally as well.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/EDU-Space-Filled-with-Adult-Spam-184302.shtml>
43. *February 14, Softpedia* – (International) **Anonymous releases more HBGary emails and makes them searchable.** Anonymous has taken issue with HBGary’s actions again and publicly released an additional 27,000 e-mails stolen during its hacking of the company’s network and servers. The week of February 6, members of the hacktivist group compromised systems belonging to HBGary and HBGary Federal, two separate, but related companies, after they threatened to expose Anonymous leaders. In response, Anonymous hacked into the company’s servers and stole tens of thousands of

confidential e-mails which it subsequently released onto the Internet. The leaked e-mails belonged to the CEO, president, COO, and principal consultant. After the HBGary president went into the group's online chat and spoke with the hackers, they decided against publishing 27,606 e-mails belonging to the company's co-founder. However, the group changed its mind after the company published a statement saying it is working with law enforcement to find the criminals who broke into its systems and suggested that Anonymous falsified some of the released data. All of the e-mails were published on a special Web site which has a search feature. The site, which is over 9 GB in size, has already been mirrored several times, making it more resilient to take-down requests.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Anonymous-Releases-More-HBGary-Emails-and-Makes-Them-Searchable-184156.shtml>

44. *February 14, Darkreading* – (International) **Long-patched vulnerabilities continue to dominate threat list.** According to the new Security Labs Report from M86 Security, the top six most frequently observed vulnerabilities on the Web were all discovered at least 4 years ago, and have all been patched for at least 2 years. Most of the top 15 flaws detected by M86 Security were on Windows or Adobe applications, and most have been around for some time — MS Office Web Components active script execution, for example, has been known since 2002, yet it still ranks second on the most frequently detected list. “Despite the fact that these vulnerabilities were patched years ago, many of them are still targeted today,” the report said. “This is likely a result of their success rates, and it reinforces the importance of updating software applications, from browsers to PDF readers.” The report also lists the top 10 exploit kits, where Eleonore remains the most popular and Phoenix comes in at number 2.

Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability-management/167901026/security/application-security/229218500/long-patched-vulnerabilities-continue-to-dominate-threat-list.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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Communications Sector

45. *February 14, Lexington Herald-Leader* – (Kentucky) **Test accidentally took down WLEX cable feed.** WLEX, Lexington, Kentucky's NBC affiliate, was temporarily off Insight Communications' basic cable lineup for a few hours February 14. The outage happened as the cable operator was testing its ability to receive WLEX's signal via fiber rather than over the air, an Insight spokesman said. Insight officials said they thought the outage was limited only to subscribers of its basic cable lineup of 22

channels and possibly just in certain geographic areas of Lexington. The signal was restored by 11 a.m.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/2011/02/14/1635205/test-accidentally-took-down-wlex.html>

46. *February 14, City of Morganton* – (North Carolina) **Sun outages could disrupt some cable channels.** The general manager of Compas Cable TV, Phone & Internet said all customers will likely experience some brief disruptions on various satellite-delivered cable channels starting February 26 due to a naturally-occurring phenomenon known as “sun outages “As the sun moves north in early spring (and also as it moves to the south in early fall), it passes directly behind the stationary satellites from which we receive our programming, causing interference to the signals we receive,” he said. The interference can be so strong that it disrupts the signal traveling from the stationary satellites to Compas’ receivers. At the beginning of the 2-week cycle, the effects will be minimal, but will gradually worsen until peaking on the seventh day, March 5. “But after March 5, the effects will gradually weaken over the next week as the sun moves away from the satellites,” he said. The disruptions will likely occur for about 2 weeks from Feb. 26 to about March 12 and can last for about 20 to 30 minutes. Different channels will be affected at different times. “Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do to prevent sun outages from occurring,” the general manager said.

Source: <http://www.wcnc.com/news/neighborhood-news/Sun-outages-could-disrupt-some-cable-channels-116177044.html>

For another story, see item [30](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

47. *February 15, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Hand grenade found in Colorado Springs park.** A hand grenade wrapped in duct tape was found in a Colorado Springs, Colorado park and safely detonated by a police bomb squad February 14. The incident unfolded at about 9:55 a.m. at Memorial Park, according to the Colorado Springs Police Department blotter. Police were called “in reference to a piece of found military ordnance” at the park on the east shore of Prospect Lake. The regional explosives unit located the device, “a modified military style hand grenade wrapped in duct tape” and determined it was a threat to the public. The grenade was taken to a secure area and “disrupted” by the bomb unit. An investigation is ongoing.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_17392229

48. *February 15, WPIX 11 New York* – (New York) **Five-alarm fire destroys historic N.Y. church.** Half a day after fire broke out at a New Rochelle, New York church, firefighters remained on scene, battling one of the biggest fires in the city’s history. Nearly 150 firefighters in the New Rochelle Fire Department responded. Joining them were firefighters and trucks from four other nearby towns. Around 1:30 a.m. February 14, multiple calls came in to the fire department about the Union Baptist Church being

engulfed in flames. Exploding stained-glass windows sent debris onto the New Rochelle City Mall and Entertainment Center across the street. PIX 11 News learned the church had some work done on its boiler the week of February 7. The New Rochelle fire director said the fire's cause is still under investigation. Since the infrastructure of the stone building is nearly completely burned away, some of the stone walls are at risk of collapsing. A crane may be brought in to knock down the church's facade as a safety precaution. The church was empty at the time of the fire. There were no serious injuries.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/topic/strategy-and-tactics/5-alarm-fire-destroys-historic-ny-church>

49. *February 14, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Third Miami Beach fire in four days raises questions.** Three suspicious fires in less than 1 week have Miami Beach, Florida officials and investigators looking into whether someone is setting fires in one of the city's historic districts. The latest fire erupted February 14 in the city's Collins Park neighborhood at the abandoned Collins Plaza Hotel. A fire chief said firefighters were forced out of the structure because of the instability of the building and the intensity of the blaze. The fire was out by 2:30 a.m., he said. The blaze followed an intense fire that burned February 9 about 2 blocks away at the Tyler Apartments. The city is also looking into a garbage can fire on the city's 34th Street boardwalk over the weekend that charred a pagoda. No one was hurt in the fires. Both Collins Park fires erupted in abandoned buildings that are considered "contributing structures" to the city's Museum historic district. The fire chief said investigators have not labeled either building fire as suspicious, but both blazes were uncommonly intense, and in both incidents the roof of the building collapsed quickly — possibly indicating the fires began on the upper floors.

Source: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/fl-miami-beach-fires-20110214,0,3396391.story>

50. *February 14, WTMJ 4 Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Boston lofts evacuated after wall collapse.** Part of a wall collapsed on the second floor of the Boston Store in Milwaukee, Wisconsin February 14. The department of neighborhood services said part of the wall collapsed and caused "localized structural instability." As a result of the collapse, Boston Store was closed February 14. The offices above Boston Store were also closed. Residents who live in 24 of the apartments inside the Boston Lofts were also evacuated as a precaution while crews worked to fix the problem. The store and offices are not expected to open until February 17. Residents were also not allowed back in to their homes for several hours. There were no injuries. The wall used to be an exterior wall, but when an addition was added, it became an interior wall. Part of the wall was knocked down to create an open concept feel. Parts of the remaining wall were reinforced with steel beams. The part that was not reinforced just could not handle the weight and collapsed.

Source: <http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/116205249.html>

For more stories, see items [23](#), [32](#), and [35](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *February 15, Asheville Citizen-Times* – (North Carolina) **Wind-whipped fires break out in Asheville area, across Western North Carolina.** A wildfire affecting Henderson, Polk and Rutherford counties in North Carolina, was affecting about 400 acres February 15, according to the Henderson County emergency service director. The North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) called in a Type 2 Incident Management Team consisting of 40-50 members to manage the fire and they expected to utilize 200 to 300 firefighters to control the Judes Gap fire over the next week. “The main concern is the south and east sides of the fire,” a NCFS spokesman said. High winds February 14 caused the brush to jump containment lines and whipped up several fires across the region. The Judes Gap fire started about 3:30 p.m. February 12 inside Chimney Rock State Park in a remote area called the World’s Edge. NCFS and local fire crews from Henderson and Polk counties responded. The fire was originally estimated to be contained at about 300 acres but could spread to 400 or 500 acres. The NCFS spokesman was unsure when the fire would be contained, but said no structures were threatened.
Source: <http://www.citizen-times.com/article/20110215/NEWS/302150032/Wind-whipped-fires-break-out-across-WNC?odyssey=nav|head>

52. *February 14, KGUN 9 Tuscon* – (Arizona) **Duquesne fire burning south of Patagonia.** A 20-acre wildfire being called the Duquesne Fire was burning February 14 south of Patagonia, Arizona. A spokeswoman from the U.S. Forest Service said the fire was burning about a half mile north of the international border with Mexico. On February 14, there were four to five fire engines and two hand crews working the blaze. The U.S. Forest Service was trying to determine if they would let the fire burn naturally or call in additional crews to control the blaze.
Source: <http://www.kgun9.com/Global/story.asp?S=14026384>

53. *February 14, Greeley Tribune* – (Colorado) **Northern Weld County fire covers 800 acres.** Pushed by high winds February 13 across northern Weld County, Colorado, a “human caused” fire burned more than 800 acres before three fire departments could stop the blaze. The fire, about 6 miles northwest of Briggsdale, covered about 4 acres of grassland when firefighters arrived. “The winds were pushing it so fast, we couldn’t keep up,” the Briggsdale fire chief said. No buildings were damaged. The National Weather Service clocked winds February 13 in excess of 30 mph. Because it was a remote area, firefighters used three tanker trucks to bring water to the scene, and still were unable to stop it until it burned more than 800 acres on private property and on the Pawnee National Grasslands. Investigation by the U.S. Forest Service indicated it was “human caused.” Firefighters were at the scene from 1:30 p.m. until past 5 p.m. A team from the Forest Service was in the area February 14 to “mop up” and check for hot spots where the fire could re-ignite.
Source:

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/article/20110214/NEWS/702149985/1002&parentprofile=1>

54. *February 14, Scripps Howard News Service* – (California) **Marijuana farming in Calif. forest harms animals, pollutes water.** The growing number of illegal marijuana farms in California’s Los Padres National Forest is killing animals and polluting the land, officials said. A sergeant with the Ventura County Sheriff’s Department narcotics bureau said not only do growers kill animals that get in the way of their gardens, but they also set up shop in natural habitats, poisoning water and land. “The fertilizers they use, Miracle-Gro and ammonium sulfate, they pour that right into soil ... I can’t imagine drinking that water can be healthy for any animal,” he said. The number of marijuana plants seized in the Ventura County portion of the Los Padres has increased by 10 percent since 2007, largely because of the presence of international drug cartels, according to the narcotics bureau. The amount of weapons seized also has risen — from one in 2007 to 31 in 2010. A warden with the California Department of Fish and Game, said the state’s forests are ideal for marijuana cultivation, because of their isolation and year-round water supply, but the effects are clear. According to the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting, a statewide task force of nine state and federal agencies based in Sacramento, 4.3 million plants were seized across California in 2010. Source: <http://www.scrippsnews.com/node/59684>

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Dams Sector

55. *February 15, Best Syndication News* – (California) **Seven Oaks Dam test in San Bernardino County.** The San Bernardino County Flood Control District along with the Army Corps of Engineers in California will be conducting a test of the Seven Oaks Dam above Redlands in San Bernardino County. This will be the third such test of the outlet works. A previous test in 2005 caused damage to the outflow tunnel floor and had to be halted. Another test in 2010 went off without a hitch and provided evidence that the repairs held. Construction of the dam began in August 1994. Upon completion in November 1999, the Seven Oaks Dam was the 10th largest earthfill dam in the United States. The dam is located 4 miles northeast of Redlands on the San Andreas Fault. The 550-foot-tall flood-control dam creates the Seven Oaks reservoir on the Santa Ana River. The river flows from the San Bernardino Mountains through Riverside and Orange Counties. Flow should exceed 3,600 cubic feet per second (cfs) from noon until 2 p.m. February 15. The flow should exceed 6,000 cfs February 17. Other agencies in attendance for the tests will be the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and the Orange County Flood Control District. Source: http://bestsyndication.com/?q=20110214_seven_oaks_dam_san_bernardino_ca.htm

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