



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 28 February 2011

**Current Nationwide Threat Level**

**ELEVATED**

**Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks**

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

### Top Stories

- Oil industry documents filed with the federal government reveal that an accidental release of a lethal chemical used in 50 aging refineries across the country could prove devastating, with 16 million Americans living within range of toxic plumes that could spread for miles, ABC News and Center for Public Integrity reported February 24. (See item [2](#))
- According to Killeen Daily Herald, the city of Killeen, Texas, advised its residents to avoid Nolan Creek until February 28 because a mechanical failure at a lift station February 22 sent about 298,000 gallons of wastewater pouring into the creek. (See item [32](#))

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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 25, WUPW 36 Toledo* – (Michigan) **13,000 still without power in SE Michigan.** Consumers Energy has restored electric service to 94 percent of the 207,000 customers affected by the winter storm the weekend of February 18. The majority of the remaining 13,000 electric customers are expected to be restored by February 25. The approximate numbers of Consumers Energy electric customers remaining without

service in the following counties in Michigan are as follows: Branch (3,200); Calhoun (260); Hillsdale (4,500); Jackson (90); Kalamazoo (370); Lenawee (3,400); and Monroe (700). Consumers Energy has more than 500 repair crews working across its service territory, including 120 utility teams from Ohio and Indiana. But they are still playing catch-up, because of melting ice on power lines and trees causing additional outages. Consumers Energy said ice and snow caused significant damage to the utility's delivery system, and that is why it is taking more time to restore service.

Source: <http://www.foxtoledo.com/dpp/news/michigan/25-000-still-without-power-in-SE-Michigan>

2. *February 24, ABC News and Center for Public Integrity* – (National) **Hydrofluoric acid risk at oil refineries.** Oil industry documents filed with the federal government reveal that an accidental release of a lethal chemical used in 50 aging refineries across the country could prove devastating, with 16 million Americans living within range of toxic plumes that could spread for miles. Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Minneapolis, New Orleans, and the stretch of Texas coastline known as “Refinery Row” are among the at-risk areas cited in the documents. Citing homeland security concerns, the government keeps the industry filings under close guard in Washington, D.C. They were reviewed as part of a joint investigation by ABC News and the Center for Public Integrity. According to the industry's worst-case scenario documents, a release of the chemical could endanger entire communities. Even though one-third of the oil refineries in the United States are using the chemical, a spokesman told ABC News that the industry has long avoided demands from safety advocates and from the union that represents refinery workers that it explore safer options. Officials at the U.S. Chemical Safety Board have warned that while the refinery industry has been painting a rosy picture of the conditions at their facilities, it has compiled a disconcerting track record. As the nation's 150 refineries have aged, there have been an increasing number of fatal, or near-fatal, incidents.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/hydrofluoric-acid-risk-oil-refineries/story?id=12985686>

3. *February 24, Bloomberg* – (Texas) **Houston ship pilots delay boarding as fog limits visibility.** Houston Ship Channel pilots in Texas delayed boarding 82 waiting inbound vessels February 24 after fog returned for a third day. The fog limited visibility at the largest U.S. petroleum port, according to the Coast Guard Vessel Traffic Service. Pilots were going to try to move six outbound, a watch supervisor for the service said February 24 in an interview from Houston. The fog slowed traffic since early February 22. A dense fog advisory was in effect until 6 a.m. February 25, the National Weather Service said in a statement at 3:19 p.m., and fog was in the forecast for February 26. Tankers use the channel connecting the Gulf of Mexico to the Port of Houston to deliver crude oil to refineries in the Houston, Texas City, and Baytown, Texas areas.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-02-24/houston-ship-channel-pilots-prepare-to-resume-vessel-boarding.html>

4. *February 24, Bloomberg Businessweek* – (International) **China oil company says Libyan facilities attacked.** China National Petroleum Corp. (CNPC) said its facilities

in Libya were attacked, and that its employees have been evacuated back to China. A statement issued February 24 on CNPC's website mentions that its project and job site were under attack, prompting an order for all staff to withdraw. It did not mention the location of the facility or any other details. State-run CNPC said it has five subsidiaries and 391 Chinese staff in Libya. The first 24 workers were repatriated by February 24. The company said it was doing "everything possible to protect its projects and assets and ensure the safety of its employees."

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9LJ33QO0.htm>

5. *February 24, Racine Journal Times* – (Wisconsin) **Eight injured in power plant explosion to receive \$16m.** Eight people injured in an explosion and fire at We Energies' Oak Creek Power Plant in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on February 3, 2009 will receive \$16 million after settling a lawsuit they filed against the utility company and its fire suppression company. The eight people worked for Waukesha's ThyssenKrupp Safway. They were hired by United States Fire Protection, Inc., to build scaffolding inside a dust collector at the plant so employees could repair the fire suppression system inside. Coal dust was not removed from the dust collector hopper before the employees entered the area, said the workers' attorney. The dust became airborne and exploded when it landed on a boiler light being used for the job. The workers were seriously injured in the explosion and resulting fire. The workers sued We Energies and United States Fire Protection, claiming the companies did not disclose dangers to the workers or take precautions to prevent fires or explosions. The defendants — which include the two companies, and their insurers and re-insurers — have not yet agreed on who will be responsible for what portion of the settlement, though a fund exists to pay the plaintiffs. The attorney said he believes the companies made changes to the way they operate as a result of the incident and the lawsuit, particularly in increased training for employees and subcontractors. The spokesman said since the incident the company has looked at protocols for contractors and subcontractors, no matter where they are working, to make sure they have necessary safety information.  
Source: [http://www.journaltimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article\\_7638934c-4013-11e0-813b-001cc4c002e0.html](http://www.journaltimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_7638934c-4013-11e0-813b-001cc4c002e0.html)

6. *February 24, Peninsula Daily News* – (Washington) **Spilled diesel flows into wetlands, creek 25 miles south of Forks.** Diesel fuel spilled from a tanker truck February 23 has reached wetlands and an unnamed creek on Hoh tribal land, the Washington Department of Ecology confirmed February 24. An unknown amount of the fuel flowed into a culvert under U.S. Highway 101 into a creek and then into the wetlands about 25 miles south of Forks, Washington. The wetlands drain into Chalaat Creek; no impacts to the Hoh River are expected, Ecology said. Ecology increased its estimate of spilled fuel from 3,500 gallons to 4,300 gallons later February 24. The northbound Pettit Oil truck drove into a ditch at about 8:24 a.m. February 23, causing its trailer, carrying 5,600 gallons of fuel, to overturn into a ditch alongside the highway. Pettit Oil has hired Cowlitz Clean Sweep to assist with the cleanup. No alcohol or drugs were involved in the wreck, the State Patrol said. Road conditions were also not a factor since the highway was bare at the time.  
Source:

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20110225/NEWS/302259994/spilled-diesel-flows-into-wetlands-creek-25-miles-south-of-forks>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

7. *February 24, Morgan Hill Times* – (California) **Traffic slowed on 152 after truck with citric acid overturns.** A big rig carrying a trailer with granulated citric acid overturned on Highway 152 east of the Romero’s Visitor Center on the Merced County side of the pass, according to the California Highway Patrol on February 23. The accident resulted in the closure of one westbound lane for 10 hours. Traveling eastbound, the driver of the truck failed to negotiate a right-hand curve in the roadway, causing his vehicle to travel onto the center median where it overturned on its left side. A 1,000-kilogram container of the citric acid ruptured, spilling its contents on the dirt and gravel of the center median. Officers discovered the spilled material on arrival and determined it was hazardous. Citric acid is an organic chemical often used in food and cleaning substances. The driver was transported to a nearby hospital with major injuries.

Source: <http://www.morganhilltimes.com/news/273141-traffic-slowed-on-152-after-truck-with-citric-acid-overturns>

8. *February 24, Evansville Courier & Press* – (Indiana) **Fire breaks out at Uniseal.** A chemical fire February 24 at West Side factory Uniseal in Evansville, Indiana, caused a lot of smoke but no injuries. The fire was reported about 2:30 p.m. at Uniseal Inc, 1800 W. Maryland St. “Wrong chemicals were put into the mixture (unit) and that’s what caused the fire,” said the chief of operations of the Evansville Fire Department. About 25 firefighters contained the blaze primarily to the first floor of the building where the fire originated, but the chain of operations said the fire spread to the vent system on the second floor. The Fire Department must run carbon monoxide tests before the plant can reopen. He said he did not know how many employees were inside the building at the time of the fire. According to its website, Uniseal is “a premier supplier of adhesive and sealant systems for automotive and industrial markets.” Properly working sprinklers prevented the fire from spreading.

Source: <http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/feb/24/fire-breaks-out-at-uniseal/>

For another story, see item [23](#)

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

9. *February 25, New London Day* – (International) **NRC weighs new study of cancer risks near nuclear plants.** Federal researchers with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said February 24 that a proposed study of cancer risks around nuclear facilities could improve the public’s trust in existing evidence that radiation doses

emitted from those plants are not harmful. The study's senior project manager told a committee of 19 independent experts organized through the National Academy of Sciences that the rationale for undertaking such a study would be to obtain credible, and updated, information for the public about possible cancer risks from nuclear plants. The last study on the issue was done in 1990. Millstone Power Station in Waterford is one of 104 nuclear facilities across the country that would be included if the experts from the NRC and the national academy decide to go forward with a comprehensive study. By partnering with the academy, the NRC would update a 1990 study by the National Cancer Institute that found no increased risk of death from cancer for those living in the 107 counties either containing or located near nuclear power reactors that were operating before 1982. The 1990 U.S. study on possible cancer risks from nuclear plants was undertaken after a study in the United Kingdom found "significant excess" of childhood leukemia around certain nuclear facilities there. The director of the NRC's Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research said the goal of the study would be to provide public assurance.

Source: <http://www.theday.com/article/20110225/BIZ02/302259874/-1/BIZ>

10. *February 25, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **EnergySolutions faces \$80K fine for waste violation.** Utah State regulators want to fine EnergySolutions Inc. \$80,000 for burying low-level radioactive waste that exceeds the state's hazard limits, and they are asking the company to take on an environmental project as part of its penalty. The fines are part of a "notice of violation" issued February 25 by the Utah Radiation Control Board. The proposed penalties stem from 23 containers of waste from government cleanups that were too hazardous to meet safety limits for burial at the company's mile-square disposal site in Tooele County. "EnergySolutions did report the problem to us, and we did consider that when we determined the penalties," said the director of the Division of Radiation Control in a news release. "Although we appreciate the cooperative efforts to resolve the errors, we will continue to ensure a process is in place to prevent this from happening again." Acting in his role as the radiation board's executive secretary the director of the Division of Radiation Control signed five violation notices last month for the four government contractors and NASA for bringing the waste to Utah. The company buried the waste during the past two years. Then it discovered during a self-audit in December that the containers amounted to a violation of its state license. Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/51309512-76/board-company-containers-control.html.csp>
11. *February 25, Amarillo Globe News* – (Texas) **Pantex confident in its security.** Pantex officials said February 24 they could not comment on plant security specifics after the arrest of a Lubbock terror suspect accused of plotting several bombing attacks, but the plant's contractor said the nuclear weapons facility is one of the nation's most secure facilities. The 20 year-old suspect, a Saudi Arabian national studying at South Plains College in Levelland, was charged with attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction. Federal court records say the suspect purchased chemicals used in bomb-making and plotted to target the home of the 43rd President of the United States, nuclear power plants and other U.S. targets. Located about 17 miles northeast of Amarillo, Pantex assembles, dismantles and modifies nuclear weapons. The plant, operated for the

government by contractor B&W Pantex, also stores tons of plutonium weapons cores from dismantled warheads.

Source: <http://amarillo.com/news/local-news/2011-02-25/pantex-confident-its-security>

12. *February 25, Associated Press* – (Utah) **2 million tons of tailings removed from Moab site.** More than two million tons of uranium mill tailings have been removed from a site along the Colorado River near Moab, Utah. The U.S. Department of Energy says in a news release the removal is ahead of schedule and under budget. The tailings are the waste from processing uranium used for the manufacture of nuclear weapons. Originally, the department budgeted \$108 million for the removal of 2 million tons. But when the project reached that benchmark, only \$83 million had been spent. The Moab Federal Project Director said the remaining money will be used to remove at least 300,000 more tons of tailings to the permanent disposal site near Crescent Junction, about 30 miles south of Moab.

Source: <http://washingtonexaminer.com/news/2011/02/2-million-tons-tailings-removed-moab-site>

For more stories, see items [35](#) and [39](#)

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

13. *February 24, Attleboro Sun Chronicle* – (Massachusetts) **Machine catches fire at Attleboro plant.** A section of a polishing machine at Engineered Materials Solutions in Attleboro, Massachusetts, caught fire February 24 and sent smoke in the building. Firefighters were dispatched to a report of a fire at the metals manufacturer at 39 Perry Ave. around 10 a.m., but the fire was out and confined by an internal sprinkler system in the machinery and a manual fire suppression system, the deputy fire chief said. He also stated that firefighters were at the scene for about an hour checking the building and duct work to determine whether the fire had spread and using exhaust fans to clear smoke from the building. The company produces clad metals which are used in a wide array of industrial and commercial products, including button cell batteries, coins, thermostat metals, truck bumpers, catalytic converters, and cookware.

Source: <http://www.thesunchronicle.com/articles/2011/02/24/news/8906482.txt>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

14. *February 24, CNET News* – (Florida) **With seconds to spare, Discovery rockets into space.** The space shuttle Discovery blasted off with seconds to spare and vaulted into orbit February 24. But trouble with an Air Force range safety system computer put the launch in doubt as the countdown ticked into its final minutes. With the end of Discovery's short 3-minute launch window approaching, the launch director ordered engineers to pick up the countdown at the T-minus-9-minute mark and to press ahead

in hopes the Air Force would be ready in time. The problem was not immediately resolved and the countdown entered an unplanned “hold” at the T-minus-5-minute mark. With time running out, the glitch was resolved, the countdown resumed, and Discovery blasted off at 4:53:24 p.m. Several pieces of foam insulation fell away from the shuttle’s repaired external tank during the climb to space, including some that hit the ship’s heat shield. But the observed impacts occurred well after Discovery was out of the dense lower atmosphere where debris impacts pose the greatest threat. No obvious heat shield damage could be seen, but engineers will carry out a detailed analysis over the next several days to make sure.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-19514\\_3-20036209-239.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-19514_3-20036209-239.html)

15. *February 24, KXAS 4 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Defense contractor offers hefty reward in thefts.** Aero Components Inc. is offering \$10,000 for a conviction in the case and return of the stolen materials. Three men broke into a gated, locked exterior storage facility in south Fort Worth, Texas, three times in a 24-hour period. The first break-in was at about 5 a.m. February 13. The men returned at 8 p.m. and then again February 14 at 5 a.m. The company manufactures aircraft parts for the Department of Defense, Lockheed Martin, and Bell Helicopter, to name a few. The theft of the aluminum toolings, which are essentially the parts’ form, could mean up to a \$10,000 loss and a possible delay in building some parts. The private company paid to monitor the security cameras during off-hours missed all three thefts. The Fort Worth Police Department is investigating the thefts but declined to comment because the investigation is in its preliminary stages. The stolen items are used in aircraft parts but do not pose a security risk, but the Pentagon was notified because the theft could slow production of some parts.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Defense-Contractor-Offers-Hefty-Reward-in-Thefts-116870193.html>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

16. *February 24, Softpedia* – (National) **FTC files complaint against SMS spammer.** The Federal Trade Commission filed a complaint against a man from Huntington Beach, California, alleging that he is responsible for sending millions of SMS spam messages. According to the complaint, during a 40-day period alone, defendant sent over 5.5 million unsolicited commercial text messages at a rate of 85 per minute. The FTC claims the messages deceptively advertised loan modification assistance, debt relief and other services. In one instance, recipients were directed to loanmod-gov.net, a site claiming to provide “Official Home Loan Modification and Audit Assistance Information.” This type of activity can cost people money because some wireless carriers charge fees for receiving text messages. In addition, the suspect is accused of selling the contact information of consumers to marketers claiming they are debt settlement leads. The alleged spammer is also said to have sent unsolicited email messages that promoted his SMS spamming services. The FTC charges the suspect with violations under the FTC Act and the CAN-SPAM Act, the law that governs the

sending of commercial emails. He also failed to include an “opt-out” option.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/FTC-Files-Complaint-Against-SMS-Spammer-186219.shtml>

17. *February 23, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Orinda robbery suspect arrested in San Francisco.** A man suspected in a February 4 armed robbery of an Orinda, California, bank has been arrested in San Francisco, police said February 22. San Francisco police arrested the 51-year-old February 8 on a drug charge. He is one of two men suspected of robbing the First Republic Bank on Brookwood Road. The men left the bank with an undisclosed amount of cash, a police official said, and their getaway car was later found abandoned. Orinda police officers interviewed Smith in San Francisco, and the FBI has taken over the case because of his possible involvement in other robberies.

Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci\\_17455166](http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17455166)

18. *February 22, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (New York) **Business owner pleads guilty to securities fraud.** A 46-year-old New York man pleaded guilty February 22 to one count of securities fraud. The guilty plea was entered in United States District Court in Syracuse, New York. Sentencing is set for July 7, 2011 in Albany, New York. The man faces a maximum term of up to 20 years in prison. As part of his guilty plea the man admitted that, from 2002 through 2010 he was the founder, owner, and sole managing member of Prime Rate and Return, LLC and American Integrity Financial Co. Neither Prime Rate nor American Integrity was registered in any capacity with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). He also admitted that he solicited and received money from investors as a representative of American Integrity. He offered and sold investors contracts with American Integrity, which American Integrity promised to pay a “guaranteed” fixed rate of interest on the initial investment. These contracts were for a fixed term, usually three years, after which the investor could either withdraw his or her investment or roll the investment over into another fixed term with a fixed rate of return. He offered rates of return that varied from investor to investor and ranged from 3.85 percent to 9.35 percent annually.

Source: <http://www.fbi.gov/albany/press-releases/2011/business-owner-pleads-guilty-to-securities-fraud>

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## **Transportation Sector**

19. *February 25, USA Today* – (National) **Reported air-traffic errors rise 81% over 2007.** More than 1,800 errors by air-traffic controllers — including 43 most likely to cause a midair collision between planes — were reported to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in 2010. The agency says that points up the need for greater safety steps. Air-traffic errors that allowed planes to get too close together jumped 81 percent from 2007 to 2010, according to newly released data by the FAA, rising from 1,040 to 1,887. Those most likely to cause a collision or an accident were also up from 34 in 2007 to 43 last year, a 26 percent increase. The higher number of reported errors

involving airliners, private planes, and military aircraft do not pose a sudden increase in the risk to fliers, the FAA says. Instead, the agency insists the numbers are the result of several years of effort to improve reporting. For years the FAA has been dogged by reports that errors were sometimes covered up. Three years ago, for example, an FAA investigation prompted by whistle-blowers found that reports were routinely falsified at a Dallas facility. In response, the agency created a new no-fault system to report errors, developed computers that can routinely spot errors, and changed the way it judges air-traffic managers' job performance. The FAA says the growing number of errors reported are a sign it is taking safety more seriously.

Source: <http://travel.usatoday.com/flights/post/2011/02/reported-air-traffic-errors-rise-81-over-2007/144627/1>

20. *February 25, San Francisco Business Times* – (California) **San Francisco's Muni cited for safety violations.** The regulator of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has cited the agency which operates MUNI for numerous safety violations, an action that could lead to fines and penalties. The California Public Utilities Commission, which oversees MUNI, began a process February 25 to consider penalties against MUNI after safety inspectors found: A deteriorating and defect-ridden track at Duboce and Church Street; no Automatic Train Control System functioning in Sunset Tunnel; problem switch electrical cables on the Church Portal including cables rubbing against switch rods; major defects including deteriorating rails that were cited in 2008 and have not been fixed; accident reports which must be filed within 60 days of accidents from 33 accidents in 2009 and 2010 that were not filed.  
Source: [http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/morning\\_call/2011/02/san-franciscos-muni-cited-on-safety.html](http://www.bizjournals.com/sanfrancisco/morning_call/2011/02/san-franciscos-muni-cited-on-safety.html)
21. *February 24, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Guilty pleas move probe ahead on attempt to derail train.** Federal investigators February 23 appeared to take a step forward in their probe into who used a barricade in an attempt to derail an Amtrak passenger train carrying 354 people in Irving, New York last July. Two men, who live on the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus Reservation, pleaded guilty to felony charges in federal court, admitting they lied to police about the incident and promising to cooperate in the investigation.  
Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/city/police-courts/courts/article349602.ece>
22. *February 23, Aviation Online Magazine* – (International) **TSA administrator applauds adoption of global aviation security measures.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Administrator the week of February 21 joined the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Regional Conference in New Delhi, India, where the 14 member states in attendance adopted the Security Roadmap on Aviation. "I applaud the adoption of the Security Roadmap on Aviation, which will strengthen global security measures to address ever-changing and emerging threats," said a TSA Administrator, who returned from New Delhi February 22. "This roadmap will assist member states in protecting global aviation from terrorist and other security threats." The roadmap identifies the actions the member states will take to strengthen security screening procedures by ensuring that professionals are appropriately trained

and equipped. Key elements include air cargo security and capacity building. This agreement will enhance existing aviation security harmonization efforts of countries in the region, as well as the concepts in the ICAO Declaration on Aviation Security. After the conference, the Administrator met with aviation officials in India to discuss opportunities for further collaboration and sharing of best practices.

Source:

[http://avstop.com/feb\\_2011/tsa\\_administrator\\_applauds\\_adoption\\_of\\_global\\_aviation\\_security\\_measures.htm](http://avstop.com/feb_2011/tsa_administrator_applauds_adoption_of_global_aviation_security_measures.htm)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

23. *February 25, Associated Press* – (National) **FBI warns of fertilizer purchases for explosives.** The FBI is reminding farm supply stores and other businesses across the United States to keep an eye out for suspicious purchases of fertilizer and other substances that can be used to make explosives. An FBI spokesman in Denver said February 24 that the FBI sent letters warning firms to watch for suspicious behavior by buyers and for unusually large purchases of certain fertilizers, pesticides, and other combustibles. ABC News first reported February 24 that letters had been sent to businesses around the country. An official from the FBI field office in Denver said the office sent letters to about 100 businesses in Colorado and Wyoming. The letter and an accompanying flier urge businesses to be aware of buyers with little knowledge of crops or fertilizers, large purchases of fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate out of season, and buyers paying with large amounts of cash or using rental vehicles to transport large amounts of fertilizer. Similar letters have been sent by FBI offices around the country to swimming pool firms and beauty supply stores.

Source: [http://www.laramieboomerang.com/articles/2011/02/25/ap-state-wy/co\\_terror\\_bomb\\_plot\\_fbi\\_warning.txt](http://www.laramieboomerang.com/articles/2011/02/25/ap-state-wy/co_terror_bomb_plot_fbi_warning.txt)

24. *February 25, KHBS 40 Fort Smith* – (Arkansas) **USDA recalls meat from Ark. farm.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) has recalled various meat and poultry products sold at Petit Jean Farm in Morrilton, Arkansas. The meat products were recalled because they did not get a federal inspection. The recall includes products sold under the brand names “Meadow Lamb,” “Meadow Beef,” and “Petit Jean Farm.” The products were sold through the Internet, as well as distributed at local markets and restaurants in Arkansas.

Source: <http://www.4029tv.com/news/26992992/detail.html>

25. *February 25, Fargo Inforum* – (North Dakota) **Roof fire damages Wahpeton Cargill plant.** A smoldering fire on February 24 damaged the roof of the Cargill plant in rural Wahpeton, North Dakota. Some plant workers were sent home for the day and others went to safe locations as firefighters from the Wahpeton and Dwight fire departments worked to extinguish a smoldering fire that spread through roof insulation, said the facility manager at the plant that produces high fructose corn syrup. The fire started in an area where contractors were attempting to create an access panel in the roof. Insulation began smoldering, and the fire spread through the insulation layer of the roof. Firefighters used thermal imaging to trace the path of the fire and eliminate problem spots. The Richland County Sheriff's Department issued a report on the fire about 1 p.m. At about 2:30 p.m. it appeared the fire had been put out and he anticipated the plant would be up and running again later in the afternoon.  
Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/309980/group/News/>

26. *February 24, WKBN 27 Youngstown* – (Ohio) **Officials work to guard against agro terrorism.** Government and health officials met February 23 in Lisbon, Ohio to talk about how they can protect animals and plants against agro-terrorism. The Columbiana County Health Commissioner said protecting the food that goes from the field to the shelf is vital and is something that requires a team effort. An agro-terrorism expert said, "You have to bring people up to speed, educate everybody who may be involved, which is our agriculture community, emergency responders, and different government agencies." A military veteran and retired firefighter who worked in Haz-Mat and chemical safety for years, now teaches counter-terrorism responses and weapons of mass destruction operations. "There's different pathogens that can be introduced that can affect livestock, that affect plants, and it's basically to target a nation or region's economy," he said. His instructions include ways to spot unusual behavior around their farm or business, how to safeguard livestock and other food products, and how to respond to an attack.  
Source: <http://www.wkbn.com/content/news/local/story/Officials-Work-to-Guard-Against-Agro-Terrorism/YER58k20JEKLLn-Dy4C4GQ.csp>

27. *February 24, Chattanooga Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **FDA agents find rats in the cheese at Shelbyville plant.** Agents of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Marshals Service on February 24 served a warrant for arrest related to 96 cases of cheese held in a Shelbyville, Tennessee warehouse that is alleged to have been subjected to unsanitary conditions. A civil complaint for forfeiture of the products was unsealed after the warrant was served. The complaint says that a January inspection of Bedford Cheese Store, Inc., in Shelbyville "found widespread and active rodent infestation and other health concerns and the response to the report was not adequate." Investigators counted approximately 300 rodent excreta pellets and observed rodent nesting material and rodent gnawed food products throughout the entire 15,000-square-foot facility. There were also numerous clumps of used chewing tobacco that had been discarded in the facility. Officials said there were many building deficiencies found, including holes in the walls and gaps under doors. In a written response to FDA following the inspection, Bedford Cheese committed to cleaning up their facility, but failed to complete all corrective actions, such as developing and implementing a pest

control plan to rid the facility of the active rodent infestation, authorities said.  
Source: [http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article\\_195348.asp](http://www.chattanooga.com/articles/article_195348.asp)

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## **Water Sector**

28. *February 25, Stockton Record* – (California) **Sewage spill fouls canal.** For three weeks, sewage overflowed from a central Stockton, California, apartment complex and drained into Smith Canal before city officials were alerted and stopped the flow February 24. An estimated 35,000 gallons of wastewater overflowed into the city’s stormwater system, said the deputy director of wastewater for the city’s Municipal Utilities Department. The eight-unit complex is located at the corner of Vine and Madison streets. Crews were alerted February 24 and stopped the overflow within 20 minutes. At nearby American Legion Park, where a city stormwater pump station is located, crews posted warning signs to keep people from swimming or fishing until water quality tests are concluded.  
Source: [http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110225/A\\_NEWS/102250331](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110225/A_NEWS/102250331)
  
29. *February 25, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Pipe bursts at Mapleton water treatment plant.** Mapleton, Iowa, residents should not allow infants younger than 6 months old to drink the city’s tap water after piping in its water treatment plant exploded, state officials said February 24. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) said in statement the broken pipes left the plant inoperable and the water untreated, though chlorinated. As of February 24, DNR officials said the nitrate contaminate level was below the maximum allowed, but an operator was closely monitoring chlorine and nitrate levels until the plant is repaired. There is no boil advisory for Mapleton. According to the DNR’s statement, the water is not currently a health concern for adults but does pose a danger to infants younger than 6 months old who are unable to process nitrates the same as adults.  
Source: [http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/briefs/article\\_48182b82-d077-534d-850a-e2bf20f98332.html](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/briefs/article_48182b82-d077-534d-850a-e2bf20f98332.html)
  
30. *February 24, Chattanooga Times Free Press* – (Tennessee) **Water break fouls downtown.** Despite working all day to fix a broken water main that shut off water to many buildings in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, officials with Tennessee American Water still are not sure when they will be able to fix it. “To fix this main is going to take a while,” said a Tennessee American Water spokeswoman on February 23. “The water will continue to run onto the street until we get down there and shut it off, and repairs could take a day or more.” She believes most buildings downtown had their water restored that afternoon, although pressure will continue to be low until the main is isolated and the water turned off. Workers have cut off the valves to the 24-inch transmission main and rerouted water through other mains, she explained. No estimates are yet available as to how many buildings were affected by the broken main, but she estimates that about 10,000 employees in the downtown area had to deal with no or

low-pressure water that day. The main, located near the intersection of 14th and Cowart streets, was broken by an AT&T contractor drilling just before 10 a.m.

Source:

[http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/Wire\\_News\\_Display.1365872935.html](http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/Wire_News_Display.1365872935.html)

31. *February 24, Atlanta Journal Constitution* – (Georgia) **Two sewage spills reported in Peachtree Creek.** Backups of grease and debris are to blame for two separate raw sewage spills into Peachtree Creek in DeKalb County, Georgia, according to water reports. County water reports show about 3,000 gallons of sewage spilled in the 3400 block of Buford Highway in Atlanta on February 23. Another 4,320 gallons also spilled February 23 in the 2000 block of Jordan Terrace in Atlanta. Both spills were cleaned up within several hours, water officials said. The county plans to start work on \$1.35 billion in sewer and water system upgrades in June.

Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/two-sewage-spills-reported-851445.html>

32. *February 24, Killeen Daily Herald* – (Texas) **Residents told to avoid part of contaminated Nolan Creek.** A mechanical failure at lift station 1 sent about 298,000 gallons of wastewater pouring into the Nolan Creek, in Killeen, Texas, February 22. Two days later, the city advised its residents to avoid the creek until February 28. The Drainage Utility Project engineer said a large buildup of grease was found in the lift station and has been a problem in the past, but did not confirm the cause of the spill. Four manholes also discharged sewage, affecting one business at the intersection of 38th and Water streets.

Source: <http://www.kdhnews.com/news/story.aspx?s=51549>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

33. *February 25, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Henry Ford Health System tightens info. security.** The Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Michigan, is strengthening its medical information security efforts after an employee lost a flash drive holding information about more than 2,700 patients. Detroit Free Press and Detroit News report the flash drive was lost January 31, and an investigation began in February. The hospital says the device was not encrypted as required by hospital policy. The information involved patients tested for urinary tract infections between July 2010 and October 2010 and included names, medical record numbers, test information, and results. It is the second information breach in recent months for Henry Ford Health System. In 2010 an employee's laptop containing patient information was stolen from an unlocked office.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-mi-medicalinformatio,0,3205795.story>

34. *February 25, Softpedia* – (International) **Fake Twitter notifications lead to rogue pharma sites.** A new wave of rogue e-mails posing as official notifications from Twitter and containing links to illegal online pharmacies have landed in people's inboxes during the week of February 20. According to Belgian e-mail security vendor MX Lab, who intercepted some of the messages, the e-mails bear a subject of "Twitter Notification" and purport to come from a @postmaster.twitter.com address. It appears the spammers modified a legitimate Twitter e-mail template in order to make their messages look as valid as possible. Recipients are informed they have pending notifications in their Twitter accounts and an URL is provided to see them. However, the link actually leads to a website selling male enhancement pills, pain killers, and antibiotics. The Web site is part of the "U.S. Drugs" rogue pharmacy chain, one of several affiliate programs that rose to prominence after the fall of "Canadian Pharmacy" in 2010. According to Spamtrackers EU, the U.S. Drugs Web sites are usually hosted on hacked servers and display deceptive elements such as a fake pharmacy license number, fake Verified by Visa logo, or fake Verisign and FDA links. Pharmaceuticals has been the highest ranking spam category throughout in 2010. Users are strongly advised against buying from such websites. The drugs sold can be fake or can contain controlled substances in dangerous amounts, posing serious health risks. In addition, buying from spam carries a very high risk of credit card fraud.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Fake-Twitter-Notifications-Lead-to-Rogue-Pharma-Sites-186255.shtml>
35. *February 24, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **NRC sanctions Pa. doc in flawed cancer treatments.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sanctioned a doctor who performed nearly 100 botched prostate cancer procedures at the VA Medical Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Associated Press reported February 24. The NRC says the doctor cannot take part in agency-related activities without undergoing more training. A medical physicist was also sanctioned February 23. The commission found the doctor took part in 91 procedures in which veterans received incorrect doses from radioactive seeds implanted in the prostate to kill cancer cells. It found many of his patients received insufficient doses because he implanted seeds in nearby organs or surrounding tissue.  
Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci\\_17470722?nlick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17470722?nlick_check=1)
36. *February 24, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Measles case leads to mass vaccinations.** Nurses vaccinated about 80 workers in a Back Bay office building February 23, as Boston, Massachusetts disease trackers moved to contain the potential spread of measles after an employee at the French consulate fell ill in February with the highly infectious germ. So far, the consulate worker is the only person who has developed symptoms of the respiratory illness, said the top disease specialist at the Boston Public Health Commission. She estimates 1,500 to 2,000 workers commute to jobs every day at the Park Square Building on St. James Avenue. The infected woman had taken the T while contagious and sought treatment at a busy Roxbury community health center. There is little reason to worry for children and adults who have already had the recommended two rounds of measles vaccine, and adults who acquired natural immunity. However, some immigrants and travelers hail from countries where

vaccination is not routine, and some parents refuse to have their children inoculated.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/health/articles/2011/02/24/measles\\_case\\_leads\\_to\\_mass\\_vaccinations/?page=full](http://www.boston.com/lifestyle/health/articles/2011/02/24/measles_case_leads_to_mass_vaccinations/?page=full)

37. *February 24, Infosecurity* – (International) **Advances in health care IT increase data breach risks, says Deloitte.** Health care organizations using advanced technologies are at increasing risk for patient data breaches, warns a new Deloitte report. The report, “Privacy and Security in Health Care: A Fresh Look,” says that as the health care industry increasingly adopts electronic health records, clinical data warehousing, home monitoring, and telemedicine, the risks of patient data breaches are also increasing. This could lead to more medical fraud and identify theft. Some of the reasons identified in the report for inadequate data protections by health care providers include lack of internal resources, poor internal controls over patient records, lack of upper management support for data security, outdated policies and procedures, and inadequate personnel training.

Source: <http://www.infosecurity-us.com/view/16193/advances-in-health-care-it-increase-data-breach-risks-says-deloitte/>

For another story, see item [9](#)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

38. *February 25, Newport News Daily Press* – (Virginia) **Chesapeake man, convicted of threatening to bomb a school, is sentenced to 4 years.** A 44-year-old Chesapeake, Virginia man convicted of making bomb threats directed at Oscar Smith High School, was sentenced February 24 to 4 years in prison. He was convicted in November on two counts of threatening to bomb. On February 24, the one-year anniversary of the incident, a circuit court judge sentenced him to 10 years in prison and suspended 6 years. The captain of the Chesapeake Fire Department said two calls were made involving the threat of a bomb at the school. Students were evacuated, but no explosive devices were found.

Source: <http://www.dailypress.com/news/chesapeake/dp-nws-chesapeake-bomb-threat-sentence,0,5996495.story>

39. *February 25, CNN* – (Texas) **Saudi national arrested on terror charge to make court appearance.** A Saudi national arrested for allegedly researching and acquiring chemicals to make a bomb was expected to make his initial appearance February 25 in a federal court in Lubbock, Texas. The 20-year-old who attended school near Lubbock allegedly researched several possible targets, including the Dallas home of a former U.S. President along with nuclear power plants and hydroelectric dams. The suspect was arrested on a federal charge of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction in connection with his alleged purchase of chemicals and equipment necessary to make an improvised explosive device, the Justice Department said. He faces a maximum

sentence of life in prison and a \$250,000 fine if convicted of attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction, officials stated. According to court records, the man conducted online research into how to construct an improvised explosive device using several chemicals as ingredients. He has also “acquired or taken a substantial step toward acquiring most of the ingredients and equipment” needed for the bomb, documents said. Authorities said the man described his desire for violent jihad and martyrdom in blog postings and a personal journal.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/CRIME/02/25/us.terror.arrest/>

40. *February 24, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Fire at Houston daycare center kills 3, injures 4.** A kitchen fire filled a home daycare center with smoke February 24, killing three children and injuring four others. All seven children in Jackie’s Child Care were taken to hospitals, said the Houston Fire Department’s executive assistant chief. They ranged in age from 18 months to 3 years old officials said. Of the injured children, one was in critical condition and one was in good condition at Children’s Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston, said a hospital spokeswoman. She said one had also been transferred to Shriners Hospital burn center in Galveston, Texas in critical condition, and had no information on the other child. State regulations allow no more than six children under preschool age to be cared for in any 24-hour period in registered child-care homes, said a Houston spokeswoman for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. She declined to comment whether the home was in compliance with that rule. Firefighters arrived at the one-story home to find it engulfed in smoke, with two injured children outside and five others trapped inside. The firefighters had to use thermal imaging cameras to locate some of the children. The daycare center was licensed to a 22-year-old woman. The woman reportedly told firefighters that the fire started in the kitchen, while she was in the bathroom. The residence was licensed last March 1 as a registered child-care home, according to Texas Department of Family and Protective Services records. Before the home opened, it was cited for not having a fire extinguisher or carbon monoxide detector, but the deficiency was corrected last February 24, the records show.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=12994187>

41. *February 24, InformationWeek* – (National) **Bill proposes chief security officers at federal agencies.** New cybersecurity legislation before Congress calls for each federal agency to appoint a dedicated chief information security officer (CISO) to ensure the federal government is complying with cybersecurity regulations. The “Cybersecurity and Internet Freedom Act of 2011” — introduced by U.S. Senators from Connecticut, Maine, and Delaware — spells out the role of CISOs within federal agencies and outlines how federal agencies should better manage security both inside organizations and across the federal government. According to the bill, CISOs will, like Chief Information Officers (CIOs), be given the authority and a budget to perform their duties, first and foremost of which will be to ensure compliance with the security measures they set up within each agency. They also will designate a series of security controls that can be “continuously monitored” to ensure an agency is complying with its own regulations. According to the legislation, CISOs will be reporting to the director of the NCCC, who they must work with not only on security incidents affecting each

agency, but also on ones that affect the government that are not under an agency's jurisdiction, according to the bill.

Source:

[http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=229219377&cid=RSSfeed\\_IWK\\_All](http://www.informationweek.com/news/government/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=229219377&cid=RSSfeed_IWK_All)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

42. *February 25, Washington Post* – (Virginia) **Judge to sentence former Virginia detective.** A federal judge in Norfolk, Virginia, will sentence a retired homicide detective February 25 who allegedly took criminals' money in exchange for getting them breaks in their cases. A federal jury found the retired Virginia Beach detective guilty in 2010 of two extortion counts and one charge of lying to the FBI. The jury ruled that he took tens of thousands of dollars from criminals and in return helped them in their cases, though in reality they did not have information that was crucial to investigations. The detective retired from the Norfolk Police Department in 2007 after nearly 30 years of service. He maintains his innocence, according to local newspapers that have followed his trial the week of February 20. The case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. The man faces 12 to 15 years.  
Source: <http://voices.washingtonpost.com/crime-scene/dana-hedgpeth/judge-to-sentence-former-homic.html?wprss=crime-scene>
  
43. *February 24, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Phoenix to test new emergency radio system.** The first major test of a newly developed "multiband" emergency-services radio system will take place in the Valley in Phoenix, Arizona, at events coming up at Phoenix International Raceway, where police and fire personnel from many agencies will converge, officials announced February 23. The NASCAR Subway Fresh Fit 500 starting February 24 through February 27 will see the first use of the radios during a 30-day test. A U.S. Department of Homeland Security program manager said hard lessons have been learned in recent years about what happens when the first emergency workers responding to an event cannot easily communicate with one another because they use radios that operate on different frequency bands. Emergency personnel trying to deal with other agencies during the September 11th terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina too often found that firefighters could not communicate with local police, and neither could communicate with state police. The manager of information technology for the Phoenix Police Department will be one of the supervisors of the pilot test of 46 Harris Corporation Unity XG-100 multiband radios that will be put into the hands of police and firefighters from city, county, tribal, and state agencies. The chief technology officer for Harris RF Communications said that while the cost of each Unity radio is about \$5,000, that is little different than the replacement cost for most existing radios in use.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2011/02/24/20110224phoenix-emergency-services-radio-system-test.html>

44. *February 24, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **Law enforcement training site could be closed.** A proposed budget cut could close the police academy in Blythe, Georgia, forcing area sheriffs and police chiefs to spend more money training their officers. The classrooms off Gordon Highway in Augusta are the hub of training for small-town police departments in the area and 13 sheriff's offices, including the ones in Richmond, Columbia, Burke, and McDuffie counties. The Augusta campus was chosen because it consistently has some of the smallest classes of all the campuses said the director of the public safety training center in Forsyth. In fiscal 2010, for instance, one basic class was canceled because of low enrollment. If the cuts do go forward, the current class would be the last in Blythe, and the facility would close for good June 30. Much of the discussion about closing the academy has been taken up with the court since ticket fees that are supposed to be funding police officer training, which in the last fiscal year, amounted to about \$26 million. The Augusta academy's cost per student-hour is higher than any other academy, said a state representative, who noted that cuts are being made to courts, juvenile justice and prison facilities, too. For now, department heads will make phone calls to the Capitol trying to change minds and save the academy.  
Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/government/2011-02-24/law-enforcement-training-site-could-be-closed>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

45. *February 25, Softpedia* – (International) **Removal of NIC-hijacking malware leads to network connection problems.** Researchers from security vendor Bkis warn that removal of a trojan which intercepts network traffic can leave the computer isolated from the network and Internet. The reason for this lies in the trojan's routine, which involves creating virtual network adapters using the names of existent ones and adding the "-" character at the end. Bkis detects this threat W32.Ndisvan.Trojan and says its purpose is to filter data passing through network controllers, download additional malware and evade antivirus detection. The rogue network adapters created by the trojans use a driver called "ndisvvan.sys," which tries to pose as the Windows NDISWAN Miniport Driver, ndiswan.sys. A Bkis senior malware researcher notes that by removing the rogue ndisvvan.sys, the network filter driver chain is broken and data can no longer reach the real network adapter. Because of this the computer will appear to have no network connection and attempting a normal local area connection repair will not resolve the problem.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/NIC-Hijacking-Malware-Removal-Leads-to-Broken-Network-Connection-186287.shtml>
46. *February 25, Help Net Security* – (International) **Failure to invest in secure software a major risk.** Failure to take software security seriously is putting organizations,

brands and people at risk, according to a report by Creative Intellect Consulting. Key highlights from the report included: key software security and quality processes are not being followed; managers are jeopardizing secure software delivery, but they are not alone; there is a clear mandate for better education and training that cannot be ignored; a mentality exists to invest in what people already know; and compliance and regulation is a key driver.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10663>

47. *February 24, The Register* – (International) **Thunderbolt: A new way to hack Macs.** The 10Gbit/s interconnect Apple introduced February 24 in a new line of Macbook Pros may contain the same security weakness that for years has accompanied another Mac innovation: the Firewire port. Like Firewire, the Intel-designed Thunderbolt is based on a peer-to-peer design that assigns blind trust to any device that connects through the bi-directional, dual channel interface. According to CEO of security consultancy Errata Security, that gives attackers yet another weakness to exploit when targeting machines that offer the interconnect. “Imagine that you are at a conference,” the security expert writes. “You innocently attach your DisplayPort to a projector to show your presentation on the big screen. Unknown to you, while giving your presentation, the projector is downloading the entire contents of your hard disk.” Such attacks rarely work on USB ports because they are based on a “master-slave” design. That means the computer has full access to the attached device but the attached device has limited access to the computer. Firewire and now Thunderbolt, by contrast, have full access to a Mac’s entire memory.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/24/thunderbolt\\_mac\\_threat/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/24/thunderbolt_mac_threat/)

48. *February 22, The Register* – (International) **Site to highlight social networks’ security soft spots.** Security researchers have set up a site designed to prod social networking Web sites into practicing what they preach about web security. Socialnetworksecurity.org, which aims to publish details of security vulnerabilities on Web 2.0 sites such as Xing or Facebook, was set up the weekend of February 19 by security researchers frustrated with a lack of response from sites about the problems they discovered. Many of the vulnerabilities unearthed fall into the category of cross-site scripting vulnerabilities, some of which (in the case of bugs on Xing and Jappy.de, for example) have already been fixed. Separately, an insecure script on Facebook creates a mechanism to make more convincing phishing attacks. This bug remains live, Socialnetworksecurity.org warns. The German-based team behind the website, who wish to remain anonymous, want to push vendors into becoming more responsible about security bugs. At a first step they want Web 2.0 to establish a security-related contact form, and to allow submission of confidential security-related problems via encrypted e-mail.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/22/social\\_network\\_insecurity/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/22/social_network_insecurity/)

## Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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### Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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### Commercial Facilities Sector

49. *February 25, Wassau Daily Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Explosion, fire at La Quinta Inn on Stewart Avenue.** A February 24 explosion and fire at a Wausau, Wisconsin hotel forced guests from their rooms, and a power outage caused neighboring businesses to be closed for more than an hour. Wausau firefighters were called at about 7:45 a.m. to a report of an explosion and a fire at the La Quinta Inn. An overhead sprinkler helped contain the fire inside a room on the hotel’s second floor, a Wausau fire inspector said. A Wausau Fire chief said he thought the fire might have been caused by an electrical problem. A battalion chief said the cause does not appear to be suspicious.

Source:

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20110225/WDH0101/102250646/Explosion-fire-at-La-Quinta-Inn-on-Stewart-Avenue>

50. *February 25, Reuters* – (National) **Va. man gets 25 years for ‘South Park’ threats.** A Virginia man who encouraged the murder of the creators of the “South Park” television show over an episode that portrayed the Muslim prophet Muhammad dressed as a bear was sentenced to 25 years in prison February 24. The man had written in multiple Internet posts over a 4-month period in 2010 that the South Park creators should end up like a Dutch filmmaker who was murdered by a radical Muslim. The man also tried on two occasions to join al-Shabab, a terrorist group in Somalia, and encouraged like-minded people on the Internet to leave suspicious packages in public places in the United States so that if and when real bombs were planted they would go unnoticed.

Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41774476/ns/us\\_news-crime\\_and\\_courts/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41774476/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/)

51. *February 25, WTAE 4 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **Woman, 4 children sickened by bug spray bomb.** Someone set off a bug spray bomb in an apartment building hallway in Elizabeth Township, Pennsylvania, that sickened a woman and four young children February 24. Shortly after, tenants began complaining of breathing problems. Police said they believe this was a prank gone wrong. Four children under the age of 12 were

checked out by medics at the scene. One woman was taken to UPMC McKeesport Hospital for treatment. Firefighters tested the air inside the apartment units when they arrived. They ventilated all neighboring apartments and re-tested levels to make sure they were safe.

Source: <http://www.wtae.com/news/26992847/detail.html>

52. *February 24, Redlands Daily Facts* – (California) **Man held in connection with Yucaipa motel room explosion.** Sheriff's deputies detained a man suspected of being involved in a methamphetamine lab explosion February 24 after he showed up at an area hospital with severe burns. The unidentified suspect was one of two men that rushed out of a room at the Yu-Cal Motel that exploded. The second man who ran out of the building remains at large. No other injuries were reported. The explosion damaged two motel rooms, but other rooms may have sustained smoke damage, as they share an attic.

Source: [http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/news/ci\\_17478276](http://www.redlandsdailyfacts.com/news/ci_17478276)

For another story, see item [23](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

53. *February 24, WHSV 3 Harrisonburg* – (Virginia) **Charges filed for fire in Shenandoah National Park.** The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) said a homeowner is charged with carelessly damaging property by fire in connection with a fire that has been burning since February 19. Officials said the homeowner was negligent in improperly discarding ashes from a wood stove. He will have to pay suppression costs to the Department of Forestry. The fire in Shenandoah National Park has burned nearly 2,000 acres. Investigators with Warren County Fire and Rescue and the Virginia DOF worked together to find the cause of the wildfire.

Source:

[http://www.wHSV.com/news/headlines/Charges\\_Filed\\_for\\_Fire\\_in\\_Shenandoah\\_National\\_Park\\_116851523.html](http://www.wHSV.com/news/headlines/Charges_Filed_for_Fire_in_Shenandoah_National_Park_116851523.html)

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## **Dams Sector**

54. *February 24, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Damaged Saylorville Dam gates tested.** The inflatable gates at Saylorville Lake in Des Moines, Iowa, which were damaged during high water last summer are being tested to make sure they work. Seams on the rubber bladders that hold up the gates came apart. They provide an extra 6 feet of storage before water tops the emergency spillway at the lake north of Des Moines. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operations manager at Saylorville Lake said the gates were raised and lowered February 23 to make sure they were working properly. He said the corps also will take bids on an inspection and service contract for the compressors that

inflate the bladder dam system.

Source: <http://www.kcci.com/news/26987227/detail.html>

55. *February 24, WTAP 5 Parkersburg* – (West Virginia) **Monitoring river levels.** The 16 dams that control water on the Muskingum River and its tributaries are operating normally, as officials say there is plenty of storage space behind the dams. Still officials are monitoring how much rain falls into February 25 as well as later this weekend to see if any action will need to be taken. The rain came down steadily in Marietta February 24 as officials kept their eyes on area rivers. This is the time of year when the Corps' 16 dams that control water on the Muskingum River and its tributaries refill the lakes, after the levels are brought down in the winter.

Source:

[http://www.wtap.com/news/headlines/Monitoring\\_River\\_Levels\\_116880783.html?ref=783](http://www.wtap.com/news/headlines/Monitoring_River_Levels_116880783.html?ref=783)

56. *February 24, East Brunswick Sentinel* – (New Jersey) **Temporary dam failure floods area around lake in Helmetta.** The collapse of a temporary dam at Helmetta Pond in East Brunswick, New Jersey, the night of February 12 caused part of the lake to drain onto nearby properties, including part of the abandoned snuff mill site. No residences were damaged by the floodwaters, officials said. The Borough Police director said the incident was the result of erosion caused by snowmelt and water runoff. Water had risen high enough to go around the dam and eat away at the earth to the point where a section of the dam's metal interlocking plates collapsed. The temporary dam in question was constructed by a contractor on behalf of Middlesex County, which owns the area that includes Helmetta Pond and the adjacent Jamesburg Park Conservation Area. The county had put the dam in place to control water while it begins construction on a new permanent dam. The police director said he learned of the flooding issue around 9:30 p.m. and went to the scene. By 11 p.m., he said, the county's contractor had rectified the problem by installing an earthen dam. Escaping water had flowed across John Street and onto the property of the former tobacco mill before the dam was corrected, but he said there was no major damage.

Source: [http://ebs.gmnews.com/news/2011-02-](http://ebs.gmnews.com/news/2011-02-24/Front_Page/Temporary_dam_failure_floods_area_around_lake_in_H.html)

[24/Front\\_Page/Temporary\\_dam\\_failure\\_floods\\_area\\_around\\_lake\\_in\\_H.html](http://ebs.gmnews.com/news/2011-02-24/Front_Page/Temporary_dam_failure_floods_area_around_lake_in_H.html)

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## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

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### **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto: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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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