



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 04 January 2012

Top Stories

- Multi-car pileups in 3 states caused by snow squalls damaged hundreds of vehicles and injured more than 20 people. – *CBS* (See item [17](#))
- Authorities arrested a German man January 2 in connection with dozens of suspected arson attacks that destroyed parked cars, scorched buildings, and rattled much of Los Angeles. – *Associated Press* (See item [41](#))

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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. *January 3, Bloomberg* – (National) **EPA cross-state emissions rule put on hold by appeals court.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must delay implementing rules on interstate air pollution January 1, a federal court ruled December 30, siding with electric power producers seeking to defeat them. A three-judge appellate court panel granted a request by electric power producers and other challengers to delay the deadline for plants in 27 states to begin reducing emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen

oxide while the court considers the rule's legality. More than three dozen lawsuits seek to derail the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, which was issued in July and revised in October. The court has not scheduled a date for argument, though the order suggested the judges would hear the case by April. Southern Co., EME Homer City Generation LP, a unit of Edison International, and Energy Future Holdings Corp. units in Texas are among the power companies challenging the rule. The state of Texas, the National Mining Association and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers joined in parallel cases, saying the rule puts an undue financial burden on power producers and threatens electricity reliability by forcing companies to shut some older plants.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-01-03/epa-cross-state-emissions-rule-put-on-hold-by-appeals-court.html>

2. *January 3, Associated Press* – (Ohio; National) **Expert: Drilling wastewater caused Ohio quakes.** A northeast Ohio well used to dispose of wastewater from oil and gas drilling almost certainly caused a series of 11 minor quakes in the Youngstown, Ohio, area since last spring, a seismologist investigating the quakes said January 2. Brine wastewater dumped in wells comes from drilling operations, including the fracking process to extract gas from underground shale that has been a source of concern among environmental groups and some property owners. Injection wells have also been suspected in quakes in Ashtabula in northeast Ohio, and in Arkansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma, said an expert with Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory in New York. Thousands of gallons of brine were injected daily into the Youngstown well that opened in 2010 until its owner, Northstar Disposal Services LLC, agreed December 30 to stop injecting the waste as a precaution while authorities assessed potential links to the quakes. After the latest and largest 4.0 magnitude quake December 31, state officials announced their belief that injecting wastewater near a fault line had created enough pressure to cause seismic activity. They said four inactive wells within a 5-mile radius of the Youngstown well would remain closed. But they also stressed injection wells are different from drilling wells that employ fracking. One expert believes more quakes will occur despite the shutdown of the Youngstown well. The quakes began last March with the most recent, December 24 and 31, each occurring within 100 meters of the injection well.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201_162-57351140/expert-drilling-wastewater-caused-ohio-quakes/

3. *January 2, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Storm knocks down trees, power lines in Michigan.** A storm that brought high winds to parts of Michigan was blamed for downing some trees and power lines. Utilities said that at its peak January 1, about 23,000 homes and businesses lost electrical service around the state. About 20,000 of those customers were from DTE Energy Co. The utility said most customers had service back that night. CMS Energy Corp.'s Consumers Energy unit said that it did not have any significant storm-related outages January 2 after a few thousand lost power January 1.
4. *January 1, Bangor Daily News* – (Maine) **Power back on after outage that affected more than 16,000 in Waldo County.** A Central Maine Power (CMP) spokesman said a fault in a

transmission line near Lincolnville, Maine, cut power to more than 16,000 customers in Waldo County beginning early December 31. No other counties were affected significantly by the outage, according to the utility company. The number of customers without power had dropped to 11,463 shortly after noon, and 9,255 soon after 1 p.m., according to the company's Web site. CMP has 23,738 customers in Waldo County. In some communities, such as Stockton Springs, nearly 100 percent of customers were without power during the outage.

Source: <http://bangordailynews.com/2011/12/31/news/midcoast/more-than-8000-without-power-in-waldo-county/>

5. *December 31, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Colorado health officials order additional measures from Suncor Energy over benzene seepage.** Toxic petroleum dissolved in groundwater beneath Suncor Energy north of Denver is seeping directly into the bottom of Sand Creek near the creek's confluence with the South Platte River, and piped drinking water at the refinery may be contaminated with benzene. State health officials ordered additional measures December 30 to minimize environmental harm and prevent people from ingesting contaminated water. Benzene levels in Sand Creek were fluctuating, but reached 670 parts per billion (ppb) December 22 — 134 times higher than the national drinking water standard of 5 ppb. An anonymous tip from a Suncor employee December 29 alerted state health officials to contamination in tap water on refinery property. Denver Water (DW) authorities, notified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, immediately began testing the city's water system for benzene, which can cause anemia, blood problems, and cancer. DW reviewed data from recent tests and found no elevated levels, a utility spokeswoman said. DW delivers treated water to the refinery at three locations. Pipes then are under Suncor's control. Over the past several weeks, monitoring along the creek found petroleum was entering the creek directly without surfacing and "The dissolved material is coming in through the bottom of the channel, not through a seep on the bank," a state health spokesman said. Suncor could be held responsible for damage extending from the refinery down the river.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_19650137

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *December 31, Daytona Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **\$92,000 repair allows I-95 to reopen after fiery crash.** As the sun rose over Port Orange, Florida, December 30, traffic was moving normally on Interstate 95 north of Dunlawton Avenue. The highway reopened after being shut for 21 hours in the wake of a deadly four-vehicle accident and explosion involving a dual trailer semi carrying canisters of methyl bromide. A preliminary estimate set repairs costs at \$92,000, said a Florida Department of Transportation spokeswoman. A 100-foot stretch of asphalt was destroyed in the December 29 accident, which occurred at 3:30 a.m. when the driver of a log truck lost control and the vehicle overturned, dumping its load, Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) officials said. That sparked a chain reaction crash involving a U.S. Mail tractor-trailer, a passenger car, and the trailer hauling chemicals. The chemical-laden truck slammed into the back of the overturned log truck and burst into flames, causing some of the canisters to rupture with an explosive force that could be heard

for miles. The pesticide was released in a toxic cloud that caused hazardous materials officials to warn nearby residents to remain inside. No evacuations were ordered. The driver of the chemical truck died. Five occupants of the other vehicles suffered minor injuries. A FHP spokeswoman said charges are pending the outcome of the ongoing investigation.

Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2011/12/31/i-95-clear-moving-after-92000-patch-job-from-crash.html>

7. *December 31, Santa Rosa Press Democrat* – (California) **Agilent agrees to fine in April blast.** Agilent Technologies has agreed to pay \$40,000 in fines to settle what California regulators said were safety lapses that contributed to an April chemical explosion that seriously injured a worker, the Santa Rosa Press Democrat reported December 31. Agilent knew there were problems with the piece of high-tech machinery used to make chemical-analysis equipment that exploded at the Santa Rosa campus because similar incidents occurred two times in 2010, according to the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal-OSHA). The employee suffered major burns when a molecular beam epitaxy machine he was working on exploded, shooting glass and hazardous substances into his face and upper torso. Cal-OSHA called the machine that produces thin coatings on integrated circuits a “reactor.” The agency said the employee was not wearing required protective equipment and clothing at the time of the explosion, which released phosphorous, arsenic, and lead. More than 20 workers underwent decontamination after complaining of respiratory problems after the flash, which spewed smoke with a chemical odor. Agilent’s customers use its test and measurement equipment to manufacture communications devices. Technology developed in Santa Rosa is used by companies that manufacture half of the world’s cell phones. No one was injured in the two previous explosions, which were much smaller than the incident in April, an Agilent spokesman said. Following the prior incidents, the company formed a team to determine what was causing the flare-ups and “refine” maintenance procedures for the machines, he said. But those efforts fell short. The company “failed to identify unsafe accumulations of phosphorus inside the reactors as creating hazardous conditions for workers,” Cal-OSHA found. It issued five separate citations. Three were related to the procedures that led to the explosion, while two stemmed from the failure to ensure the employee wore eyewear or a respirator. In the wake of the accident, the company hired failure analysis consultant Exponent, the Agilent spokesman said.

Source:

<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20111231/ARTICLES/111239918/1010/sports?Title=Agilent-agrees-to-fine-in-April-blast&tc=ar>

8. *December 30, Lafayette Journal & Courier* – (Indiana) **Tanker creates bottleneck.** A chemical tanker overturned at the intersection of U.S. 52 and Schuyler Avenue in Lafayette, Indiana, December 30, closing the busy intersection for about 5 hours. The truck leaked part of its load of aqua ammonia in the road after the 2:45 p.m. crash, but officials quickly contained it and did not have to evacuate anyone. The driver of the tanker suffered a minor injury.

Source: <http://www.jconline.com/article/20111231/NEWS/112310315/Tanker-creates-bottleneck?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE%7Cs>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

9. *January 3, Richmond Times-Dispatch* - (Virginia) **North Anna nuke unit powered down for repairs.** One of the two units at Dominion Virginia Power's North Anna nuclear power plant in Louisa County, Virginia, was operating at reduced power January 3 after the discovery of a mechanical problem. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said a leak was detected January 2 in an instrument air line in Unit 1, and the unit was manually taken from 100 percent of operating capacity to 4 percent while repairs were made. The repairs were quickly completed, and workers began powering Unit 1 back up, an NRC spokesman said. Unit 1 was operating at 8 percent January 3, he said. A spokesman for Dominion said the utility expects Unit 1 to be back at full power soon.
Source: <http://www2.timesdispatch.com/news/2012/jan/03/4/north-anna-nuke-unit-powered-down-repairs-ar-1583995/>
10. *January 3, WBTV 3 Charlotte* - (North Carolina) **Emergency declared after teen jumps fence at nuclear plant.** An emergency was declared at the McGuire nuclear plant in Huntersville, North Carolina, early January 2 after a security breach, according to a report from Duke Energy. The report stated security saw someone climb over a fence into an unauthorized area. The emergency was labeled as an "unusual event." Security detained the suspect until Charlotte Mecklenburg police arrived, the report said. After security searched the area and found nothing had been tampered with, the unusual event was canceled.
Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/story/16435429/unusual-event-reported-at-mcguire-nuclear-plant>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *January 3, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* - (National) **Uni-O Industries recalls O-Grill portable gas grills due to fire and burn hazards.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Uni-O (Xiamen) Industries, January 3 announced a voluntary recall of about 4,530 O-Grill portable gas grills. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately. The regulator on the grill can leak gas which can ignite, posing a fire and burn hazard to consumers. Uni-O has received 10 reports of grills catching fire.
Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml12/12077.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *January 3, KDAF 33 Dallas* - (Texas) **North Texas police search for ‘Handsome Guy Bandit’ bank robber.** Police said a suspected bank robber is on the run after he fired shots at an officer December 31 following a robbery at the Compass Bank in Richardson, Texas. The man, known as the “Handsome Guy Bandit,” is accused of robbing half a dozen banks in the North Texas area. He got the name, “Handsome Guy Bandit,” because of the realistic-looking mask covering his head during robberies.

Source: <http://www.the33tv.com/news/kdaf-north-texas-police-search-for-handsome-guy-bank-robber-20120103,0,441189.story>

13. *January 3, Legal Newsline* - (National) **Financial services firm pleads guilty to municipal bond fraud.** Beverly Hills, California-based Rubin/Chambers, Dunhill Insurance Services (also known as CDR Financial Products), and its founder and owner pleaded guilty December 30 to bid-rigging and fraud conspiracies involving investment of municipal bond proceeds and other related municipal finance contracts. CDR and its founder pleaded guilty to participating in separate bid-rigging and fraud conspiracies with various financial institutions and insurance companies and their representatives. They offered a type of contract, known as an investment agreement, to state, county, and local governments and agencies across the country. CDR was hired to act as a broker and conduct a supposed competitive bidding process for contracts for investing municipal bond proceeds. The firm’s founder admitted that, from 1998 until 2006, he and other co-conspirators supplied information to providers to help them win bids, solicited intentionally losing bids, and signed certifications that contained false statements regarding whether the bidding process for certain investment agreements complied with relevant Treasury Regulations, the announcement said. He also admitted he and other co-conspirators solicited fees from providers, which were in fact payments to CDR for rigging or manipulating bids for certain investment agreements so a particular provider would win that agreement at an artificially determined price.

Source: <http://www.legalnewsline.com/news/234784-financial-services-firm-pleads-guilty-to-municipal-bond-fraud>

14. *December 31, San Gabriel Valley Tribune* - (California) **‘Puffy Coat Bandit’ robs bank in Glendora.** A serial bank robber dubbed the “Puffy Coat Bandit” robbed a Union Bank in Glendora, California, January 30, authorities said. A Glendora police lieutenant said the suspect presented a note demanding money to one of the tellers. He also simulated having a weapon during the heist. The suspect took the cash and left. The robber was believed to be a serial bandit the FBI is calling the “Puffy Coat Bandit” due to the ski jacket-type outerwear he has sported during several area heists in recent weeks, an FBI spokeswoman said. The bandit has been linked to three other bank robberies since December 20. They include: a December 28 robbery at Mission Oaks Bank in Lake Elsinore; a December 22 heist at Premier Services Bank in Corona; and December 20 at U.S. Bank in Chino.

Source: http://www.sgvtribune.com/technology/ci_19649129

15. *December 31, DoD Live* - (International) **Aggressive phishing attack targets military.** A recent phishing attack is making the rounds in an e-mail which appears to be from USAA, a financial services company that serves military members, their families, and veterans, DoD Live reported December 31. The e-mail subject begins with “Deposit Posted.” Members are

asked to open a Zeus-infected attached file. Once opened, it launches a malicious virus that could provide access to personal information and may require a complete reinstall of the computer operating system.

Source: <http://www.dodlive.mil/index.php/2011/12/aggressive-phishing-attack-targets-military/>

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Transportation Sector

16. *January 3, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Texas: Man detained at airport is a Green Beret.** A man arrested December 31 with explosives at Midland International Airport in Texas is an Army-trained demolitions expert and member of the Green Berets who served in Afghanistan, military officials said January 2. The passenger was being held on a federal charge of attempting to board an aircraft with an explosive, the FBI said. He was detained after a Transportation Security Administration agent noticed he had explosives in his carry-on luggage while trying to board an American Eagle flight to Dallas, the FBI said.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/03/us/texas-man-detained-at-airport-is-a-green-beret.html>

17. *January 3, CBS; Associated Press* – (National) **Snow wreaks havoc: Multi-car pileups in 3 states.** Multi-car pileups in 3 states on a snowy January 3 injured more than 20 people and temporarily shut major highways. Police said 8 people were hurt in a 41-vehicle pileup that shut southbound Interstate 75 for hours when scattered snow showers pelted northern Kentucky. Kentucky's Kenton County police department said six of the injured were taken to hospitals, but none of the injuries were life-threatening. It said cars and other vehicles collided on southbound lanes just south of Cincinnati, Ohio. Police said 23 vehicles had to be towed before southbound lanes reopened. Authorities said the cause is under investigation. Authorities in western Pennsylvania are blaming a snow squall for a 21-car pileup that closed Interstate 80 for about 8 hours. The eastbound lanes reopened late January 2 after crews cleaned up the crash involving six tractor-trailers and 15 other vehicles in Washington Township area of Jefferson County. Seventeen people were reported injured. State police said several of those injured were in serious condition. The Jefferson County emergency management director said a tanker carrying liquid nitrogen was involved but no spill occurred. A burst of snow across central Indiana January 2 caused multicar-pileups that temporarily closed three major highways around Indianapolis. A 12-vehicle crash closed all eastbound lanes of Interstate 70 on the city's east side. Crashes also closed the eastbound lanes of Interstate 465 on the south side and southbound lanes of Interstate 65. All three highways opened to traffic again later January 3, state police said. Indiana State Police troopers worked more than 80 crashes around Indianapolis over about 4 hours.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-500202_162-57351125/snow-wreaks-havoc-multi-car-pileups-in-3-states/

18. *January 1, Associated Press* – (New York) **Student arrested bringing stun gun on plane.** Authorities said a college student from China was arrested trying to carry a combination stun gun and flashlight onto a plane in New York City. The student said by phone January 1

she pleaded not guilty and believes her weapons-possession case is on track to be resolved with a fine. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) said a checkpoint screener spotted the item in the student's carry-on luggage as she headed for an Orlando, Florida-bound flight at John F. Kennedy International Airport. The TSA said the device initially just appeared to be a flashlight, but the screener looked more closely and saw it also was a stun gun. The student was then arrested.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-201_162-57350748/student-arrested-bringing-stun-gun-on-plane/

For another story, see item [8](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *December 31, WRTV 6 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Mailbox explosions leave residents on edge.** Residents in Kokomo, Indiana, were left on edge after two devices exploded inside mailboxes December 30. Police said the first incident was reported in the 2400 block of Greentree Lane when a woman was walking her dog and discovered the explosives before calling 911. The explosion damaged the mailbox, and the force of the blast sent metal flying everywhere. Two miles down the road, another explosive was placed in a mailbox in the 600 block of Philadelphia Drive.

Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/30110652/detail.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *January 2, Food Safety News* – (Wisconsin) **Wisconsin requests recall for some shredded cheese.** The state of Wisconsin has requested a recall of cheese shredded at a plant in which Listeria was later detected in one brand that had been processed at the facility, Food Safety News reported January 2. Alpine Slicing and Cheese Conversion of Monroe announced its recall January 1. The company said testing by an independent laboratory confirmed some products processed on the shred line contained Listeria. World Cheese said it is recalling all of its cheeses that were shredded in the affected plant.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/wisconsin-requests-recall-for-some-cheese/>

21. *January 2, Food Safety News* – (National) **Salmonella sprouts recall expands due to Listeria concerns.** A sprouts grower that recalled alfalfa sprouts in December because of a positive Salmonella test is now pulling more varieties off the market because of Listeria concerns, Food Safety News reported January 2. In a news release, Texas-based Green Valley Food Corp. said it is recalling about 35,159 cases of sprouts because several random samples tested positive for Listeria monocytogenes. The recall includes the 650 cases of sprouts recalled December 23 and 24, as well as sprouts that have use-by dates from December 22, 2011 to January 17. The sprouts were distributed in Texas to grocery store distribution centers

and food service customers.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/sprouts-recall-expands-due-to-listeria-concerns/>

22. *December 31, Food Safety News* – (Arizona) **Allergen alert: Marinated meat with wheat, soy, milk, sulfites.** Shamrock Foods of Phoenix is recalling about 7,500 pounds of marinated beef and marinated chicken because the marinated beef contains soybeans, wheat, and sulfites, and the marinated chicken contains wheat, milk, and sulfites, Food Safety News reported December 31. The problem was discovered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) during a routine inspection. In the recall alert, FSIS and the company said they have received no reports of adverse reactions. The products were produced from December 1 through December 29, and shipped to food service institutions in Arizona.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/12/allergen-alert-marinated-meat-with-wheat-soy-milk-sulfites/>

23. *December 31, Food Safety News* – (International) **Another alert on possible Listeria-contaminated cheese.** The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) has added a warning to consumers about cheese recalled in November in Canada that may still be in circulation in the United States, Food Safety News reported December 31. The cheese, linked to one case of listeriosis in Canada, was supplied by Fromagerie Marie Kade of Quebec. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency issued a November 24 health alert notifying residents of Canada of a recall initiated by the dairy plant. This recall followed two previous alerts and extensive product testing, according to Canadian authorities. After a Glendale, California distributor issued a December 26 recall of the cheese distributed in Southern California, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) notified Massachusetts officials December 28 the product was distributed to Cedar Market in Norwood and that Cedar Market sold the recalled cheese to Bahnan's in Worcester. The MDPH said it worked with the FDA and local officials to embargo and destroy the possibly contaminated cheese and to review inventory records for distribution.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/12/another-alert-on-possible-listeria-contaminated-cheese/>

24. *December 31, Food Safety News* – (National) **Salmonella concerns prompt iceberg lettuce recall.** Some Kroger grocery stores in North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio, and Smith's grocery stores in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, and Nevada recalled Growers Express brand iceberg lettuce December 30, because it might be contaminated with Salmonella. Both Kroger and Smith's posted recall notices on their Web sites. The CEO of Growers said Salmonella had been found in an Arizona field adjacent to his company's acreage, and that Growers had alerted retailers and suggested a recall, even though there was no evidence his company's lettuce was contaminated.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/12/salmonella-concerns-prompt-iceberg-lettuce-recall/>

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Water Sector

25. *January 3, Birmingham News* – (Alabama) **Jefferson County sewer overflows are big problem.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said the city of Birmingham, Alabama had more than double the amount of sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) in 2011 after spending billions of dollars to improve its sewer system, according to the Birmingham News January 3. “Last year we had about 300 overflows,” said the director of the environmental services department. The EPA suggests having less than four SSOs per 100 miles of sewer pipe per year and the director said they are at about 10 SSOs. Sewer department officials attributed 281,000 gallons of overflow that probably reached Valley Creek in December on sewer lines that were incapable of handling an overwhelming flow. The EPA has put an emphasis on reducing sanitary sewer overflows nationwide because they can contaminate drinking water supplies and cause other environmental and human health problems, according to the agency. Source: http://blog.al.com/spotnews/2012/01/birmingham_sewer_overflows_are.html

26. *January 3, Legal Newsline* – (Rhode Island) **Companies settle dumping allegations.** The Rhode Island attorney general announced a settlement December 30 between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and several companies that allegedly dumped waste at a site in Smithfield, Rhode Island. The agreement was also signed by the EPA, the state of Rhode Island, and the U.S. Department of Justice. “The settlement announced today allows the state to finally move forward with a plan and much-needed funding to remediate the environmental damage caused by years of dumping hazardous chemical wastes at the Davis site,” the attorney general said. The settling defendants include Life Technologies Corporation, Rohm and Haas Company, Morton International LLC, Bristol Inc., FKI Industries Inc. (formerly known as Acco-Bristol Division of Babcock Industries Inc.), the Black and Decker Corporation, and Ashland Inc. Source: <http://www.legalnewsline.com/news/234786-companies-settle-dumping-allegations>

27. *December 31, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **Severe storms led to sewage spills across state.** Tropical Storm Irene and the October snowstorm caused millions of gallons of raw sewage to spill into waterways throughout Connecticut when backup power systems failed at waste treatment plants, the Hartford Courant reported December 31. The 47 spills reported to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), ranged from 42.7 million gallons of partially treated sewage dumped into Long Island Sound in Stamford to 250 gallons of raw sewage poured into the Farmington River in Simsbury. The reports were filed to the DEEP during the two storms so state officials could monitor possible environmental issues. Nearly all of the spills were caused either by flooding during the tropical storm or by power failures coupled with malfunctioning backup generators. The DEEP Commissioner reported there were 14 spills in which more than 1 million gallons of sewage spilled. Sewage was discharged into 16 rivers across the state. Untreated or partially treated sewage was discharged by plants in 26 communities, from the state’s biggest city, Bridgeport, to one of its smallest towns, Norfolk. Source: http://articles.courant.com/2011-12-31/health/hc-storm-seweragespills-0101-20111231_1_gallons-of-raw-sewage-spills-backup-power

28. *December 30, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Storm debris shuts down Clackamas River water intake, putting West Linn, Oregon City on backup water system.** A Clackamas River intake station in Oregon City was shut down indefinitely after damage to fish screens at the structure was allowing debris into the drinking water pump system, the Portland Oregonian reported December 30. The general manager of the South Fork Water Board said high water levels from the Clackamas River was the likely cause. He added that the station's shutdown means West Linn and Oregon City are currently receiving drinking water through emergency water intertie systems with Lake Oswego and the North Clackamas County Water Commission, respectively. The manager was informed December 29 there might be a problem with the pumping system. After investigation, the intake station was shut down that night. It is likely a large item, such as a log, smashed into the fish screens that prevent fish and debris from getting into the water system. Officials might not be able to assess the problem the week of January 1.

Source: http://www.oregonlive.com/west-linn/index.ssf/2011/12/clackamas_river_intake_station.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. *January 3, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Fire dog joins Fla. probe at burnt abortion clinic.** A chemical-sniffing dog from the Florida state fire marshal's office will help determine if a New Year's blaze at a Pensacola abortion clinic was arson. A spokeswoman for the office said the dog should be on site at the burned-out clinic January 3. The dog can detect if an accelerant was used early January 1 to spark the fire at American Family Planning. No one was hurt in blaze. The clinic, formerly known as The Ladies Center and as Community Healthcare, has been the site of deadly violence in the past.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/01/03/4159762/fire-dog-joins-fla-probe-at-burnt.html>

30. *January 2, WPIX 11 New York City* – (New York) **Federal agent was killed by friendly fire during L.I. pharmacy robbery.** Police now believe the bullet that killed an off-duty federal agent at a Seaford, New York pharmacy was fired from an off-duty New York Police Department (NYPD) officer's gun, according to reports. According to authorities the off-duty Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agent was in Charlie's Pharmacy, when he got into a struggle with an armed ex-con. He held up the store and was fleeing with OxyContin pills and cash. Meanwhile, a customer managed to escape and ran next door to the deli, alerting an off-duty New York City cop and a retired Nassau County police lieutenant about what was happening. Then, investigators say the pair ran into the ex-con and officer struggling in the doorway; shots were fired killing the ex-con and officer. Both men were in plainclothes and the off-duty police officers may have mistaken the officer for the robber. The ex-con was armed only with a Crosman Model 1008 Pellet Gun, according to the Nassau County Police Department.

Source: <http://www.wpix.com/news/wpix-atf-officer-john-capano-killed-friendly-fire,0,1082412.story>

31. *January 1, Tacoma News Tribune* – (Washington) **Reported DUI driver slams into Lakewood Multicare clinic, damaging waiting room.** A reportedly drunken driver smashed into the Lakewood, Washington MultiCare clinic late December 31, causing serious damage to the clinic’s urgent care waiting room. A Lakewood police spokesman said the suspect was an airman assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord. He said the suspect tried to prevent a witness from calling police to the scene. The suspect reportedly is in the custody of military police. Multicare kept the clinic open January 1 by temporarily moving the urgent care operations to a primary care wing, a spokeswoman said. No one was in the building when the crash took place. Multicare’s facilities team investigated the damage January 1. The clinic has not said how it plans to operate for the rest of the week.

Source: <http://blog.thenewstribune.com/crime/2012/01/01/reported-dui-driver-slams-into-lakewood-multicare-clinic-damaging-waiting-room/>

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Government Facilities Sector

32. *December 28, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Felony charges filed against UC and a UCLA chemistry professor after fatal laboratory fire.** Felony charges were filed against the University of California and a University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA) chemistry professor in connection with a laboratory fire that killed a staff research assistant 3 years ago, the Los Angeles Times reported December 28. In December 2008, a woman was severely burned over nearly half of her body when air-sensitive chemicals burst into flames during an experiment and ignited her clothing. Her death raised questions about lab safety practices at UCLA and about her training and supervision by a prominent researcher. The Los Angeles County district attorney’s office charged the researcher and the UC regents with three counts each of willfully violating occupational health and safety standards, resulting in the woman’s death. They are accused of failing to correct unsafe work conditions in a timely manner, to require clothing appropriate for the work being done, and to provide proper chemical safety training.

Source: <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/dec/28/local/la-me-1228-ucla-death-20111228>

For another story, see item [15](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

33. *January 3, Softpedia* – (California) **Antisec hacks California Law Enforcement Association, email content leaked.** As part of Project Mayhem, AntiSec hackers took down the official Web site of the California Law Enforcement Association. The site was still down January 3 and the attackers claim other sites hosted on the same domain are also “wiped off the net.” Besides defacing the Web site and posting their messages on its main page, the black hats also leaked the contents of some e-mails belonging to their staffers and billing information from customers. The e-mails sent between employees show they suspected they were victim of

a data breach, but it took some time for them to change the passwords. Until they did so, the hackers managed to obtain a lot of sensitive data, including the unencrypted content of some database tables that was sent via e-mail. Among one of the e-mails, the hacktivists also found a list of personal e-mail addresses belonging to New York police chiefs. “For our next owning we bring you multiple law enforcement targets in the state of New York, who has been on our crosshairs for some time due to their brutal repression of Occupy Wall Street,” they said.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Antisec-Hacks-California-Law-Enforcement-Association-Emails-Content-Leaked-243971.shtml>

34. *January 2, Reuters* – (California) **Prisoner escapes from Calif. jail in fire truck.** A convicted car thief who was assigned to a San Diego area state prison’s firefighting detail escaped in one of the prison’s yellow fire trucks, prison officials said January 2. “He got in one of our institution’s fire trucks and drove away,” said a Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility public information officer. The escape, which happened January 1, came to attention of police when the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department (SDCSD) got a call that someone was having trouble parking the truck in a convenience store parking lot in Spring Valley, about 25 miles from the prison. When deputies arrived, they recovered the fire truck but the occupants had already run away, said a SDCSD lieutenant.

Source: http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/45851167/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/#.TwMpiVbFB5F

35. *January 2, Ventura County Star* – (California) **Santa Barbara sheriff’s station firebombed a second time.** A Santa Barbara, California Sheriff’s Office patrol station was firebombed for a second time late January 1, officials said. An unknown suspect threw a combustible device similar to a Molotov cocktail at the Isla Vista station, officials said. While the building was occupied at the time, no one was injured and the building sustained minor damage. A similar arson attack occurred at the station November 15, but it is unknown if the incidents are related, officials said.

Source: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/jan/02/santa-barbara-sheriffs-station-firebombed-a-time/>

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Information Technology

36. *December 30, Softpedia* – **Stuxnet, Duqu and others created with ‘Tilded’ platform by the same team.** After an extensive analysis of a large number of Stuxnet and Duqu drivers, Kaspersky Lab experts concluded the two trojans, along with other pieces of malware, were created by the same team, using a platform called Tilded, created around 2007-2008. They believe Tilded (named so because its authors tend to use file names that start with the symbol *tilde* followed by a letter d (~d)) was utilized to create the two now infamous trojans, which may have been the results of simultaneous projects. The details indicate other spyware modules and programs are based on the same platform. Now, researchers present a precise timeline to show the connection between Duqu and Stuxnet, but also to show the evolution of their drivers from one year to the other. Their studies show a driver called *jmidebs.sys* is the

connecting link between *mrxls.sys* and the drivers later used in Duqu. “The drivers from the still unknown malicious programs cannot be attributed to activity of the Stuxnet and Duqu Trojans. The methods of dissemination of Stuxnet would have brought about a large number of infections with these drivers; and they can’t be attributed either to the more targeted Duqu Trojan due to the compilation date,” the chief security expert at Kaspersky Lab said. “We consider that these drivers were used either in an earlier version of Duqu, or for infection with completely different malicious programs, which moreover have the same platform and, it is likely, a single creator-team.” In mid-2010, Tilded went through some changes that may have resulted from the need to better avoid detection by antivirus software, but also because its code could be improved.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Stuxnet-Duqu-and-Others-Created-with-Tilded-Platform-by-the-Same-Team-243874.shtml>

37. *December 30, Softpedia* – **Microsoft releases security update for DoS issue in ASP.NET.** Microsoft rushed to release an out-of-band security update to resolve a denial-of-service (DoS) issue that affected ASP.NET versions 1.1 and later on all supported variants of the .NET framework. A large number of Web platforms are affected by the hash collision problem, but the company was among the first to act on it. The MS11-100 security bulletin fixes a vulnerability that exists in the way ASP.NET hashes specially crafted requests. The hash collisions that occur when malicious data is inserted into hash tables could overwhelm a server’s CPU resulting in a DoS condition. Besides this, other weaknesses are resolved in the latest security update. A phishing attack could be launched by a hacker using a spoofing vulnerability that verifies return URLs during the form authentication process. By exploiting this flaw, an attacker can redirect a user to a malicious Web site set up to obtain private data. An authentication bypass vulnerability that exists in ASP.NET forms is more difficult to exploit, but if an attacker manages to register an account on the application and knows the name of the targeted account, he could utilize a special Web request to initiate any action, including code execution, using the targeted account. Finally, an authentication ticket caching weakness allows for a cybercriminal to execute arbitrary code due to the way cached content is handled by the framework when Forms Authentication is used with sliding expiry. Combined with some social engineering, an attacker could send potential victims, ones with elevated privileges, a specially crafted link. Microsoft is not aware of any attacks taking place in the wild using these vulnerabilities, but to prevent any unfortunate incidents, users are advised to install the update.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Releases-Security-Update-for-DoS-Issue-in-ASP-NET-243764.shtml>

38. *December 30, H Security* – **Host storage devices vulnerable with KVM Linux virtualization.** According to a kernel update advisory by Red Hat, root users in a guest system virtualized with KVM (Kernel-based Virtual Machine) can, in certain circumstances, gain read and write access to the Linux host’s storage devices. The advisory said the hole exists when a host makes available partitions or LVM volumes to the guest as “raw disks” via virtio. Privileged guest users can send SCSI requests to such volumes the host will execute on the underlying storage device – which allows the guest system to access all areas of the device rather than just permitted partitions or volumes. The hole has been rated as “important” and is listed under CVE ID 2011-4127. Further background information is available in an entry in

Red Hat's bug database and in a blog posting by a Red Hat developer. Meanwhile, kernel developers are discussing the most suitable way to fix the problem; a patch suggested by another Red Hat developer has not met the approval of Linux's developer. He also thinks the patch is too dangerous to be integrated into the Linux main development branch at this point; the main development branch is expected to produce version 3.2 of the Linux kernel in early January.

Source: <http://m.h-online.com/security/news/item/Host-storage-devices-vulnerable-with-KVM-Linux-virtualisation-1402022.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US –CERT abc@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

39. *January 3, New York Daily News* -- (New York) **150 Bronxites still without Verizon service more than two weeks; firm hopes to restore most customers by Tuesday.** About 150 Bronx, New York Verizon customers remain without phone and Internet service more than 2 weeks after a contractor's mishap severed underground cables. Some customers regained service December 22 only to lose it again December 28. About 2,500 customers initially lost service December 15 when Kelco Construction Co., a contractor not working for Verizon, cut through nine cables, a Verizon spokesman said. The snafu near Westchester Square affected Verizon users all over the Bronx. Some customers with restored service lost it again during heavy rains because water flowed into open manholes and areas where workers were making repairs. The spokesman said Verizon initially estimated fixing everyone's service would take until middle or late January. Now it is expected nearly everyone will have service by the first week of January.

Source: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/bronx/150-bronxites-verizon-service-weeks-firm-hopes-restore-customers-tuesday-article-1.999966>

40. *January 2, KATU 2 Portland* – (Washington) **Outage causes more than 1,600 to go without phone service.** A power outage January 2 in Washington County, Oregon knocked out phone service to more than 1,600 people. Officials from Frontier Communications said there is a phone outage out of the Aloha Central office. Officials said there are up to 1,637 customers currently without phone service. Technicians are currently working to resolve the situation, but there is no current estimated time of repair. Company officials urged impacted citizens to find an alternate means of communication, such as a wireless phone, in case they have an emergency and need to call 911.

Source: <http://www.katu.com/news/local/Outage-causes-more-than-1600-to-go-without-phone->

Commercial Facilities Sector

41. *January 3, Associated Press* – (California) **24-year-old arrested in Los Angeles arson spree.** Authorities arrested a German man January 2 in connection with dozens of suspected arson attacks that destroyed parked cars, scorched buildings, and rattled much of Los Angeles over the New Year's weekend. The suspect was booked for investigation of arson of an inhabited dwelling and was being held without bail, authorities said. The suspect is a German national, but authorities said they did not know how long he has been in the United States. Fires were reported in nearly two dozen locations in Hollywood and the neighboring city of West Hollywood during a 4-hour period before dawn December 30. In nearly every case, the fire started in a parked car. Several more cars burned December 31 in the North Hollywood area, and authorities investigated if they were connected. More than 50 blazes had flared since December 30 in Hollywood, neighboring West Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley, causing about \$3 million in damage. Firefighters have not responded to any other suspicious fires since the suspect was detained. The fires forced many apartment dwellers from their homes. One of the fires December 31 occurred at the Hollywood and Highland entertainment complex, a popular tourist destination bordered by the Walk of Fame in a neighborhood that includes Grauman's Chinese Theatre. Hundreds of investigators, police officers, and firefighters raced to deal with the fires.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/01/02/la-authorities-respond-to-as-many-as-eight-new-fires-amid-arson-sprees/>

42. *January 3, Associated Press* – (New York) **NYPD questioning man in suspected arson attacks on corner store, Islamic cultural center.** New York City's police commissioner said detectives questioned a man in connection with at least four suspected arson attacks that might be bias crimes, the Associated Press reported January 3. He said authorities believe the suspect was kicked out of a store December 22 for trying to steal glass Starbucks bottles. He said four of the five attacks January 1 were done with Molotov cocktails made from such bottles. Police said they found the suspect through video of his car. They are investigating the attacks as possible hate crimes, but it is not clear what group was targeted, if any. The bottles were thrown at an Islamic cultural center, a convenience store, and two homes. One of the homes was used as a Hindu worship site.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/nyc-police-probe-firebombing-attack-on-prominent-islamic-center-3-other-sites/2012/01/03/gIQAhXNcXP_story.html

43. *January 2, WTNH 8 New Haven* – (Connecticut) **Somers church destroyed by fire.** A fire destroyed the Somers Congregational United Church of Christ in Somers, Connecticut, January 1. The fire chief said the church collapsed within 25 or 30 minutes of the fire. When it was clear the church was a loss, firefighters focused on saving neighboring buildings. They kept the fire from spreading, even though the flames were hot enough to melt the siding of the town hall across the street. The original 19th century church is gone but a 20th century addition on the back may be able to be reopened soon.

Source: <http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/news/connecticut/somers-church-destroyed-by->

[fire?hpt=us_bn4](#)

44. *January 2, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Concertgoer dies after fall from upper floor.** A man died after falling from a second-level seating area at 1stBank Center in Broomfield, Colorado, during a December 30 concert that extended into December 31, police said. Police are investigating how the man fell. At the end of the concert, the man somehow plunged from the second-level area directly behind the main stage, police said.

Source: http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/30117844/detail.html?hpt=us_bn7

45. *January 1, New York One* – (New York) **Brooklyn fire leaves nine injured, dozens displaced.** Nine people were injured January 1 after a fire broke out inside a Brooklyn apartment building. The New York City Fire Department said units were called to a fire in a fourth-floor apartment. A fire chief on scene said the fire moved quickly up to the sixth floor. The nine people, including three firefighters, were taken to the hospital with non life-threatening injuries. Officials are also investigating an explosion during the fire, which one witness said was an oxygen tank. Fire officials said the Red Cross is helping relocate 28 families displaced by the fire.

Source: http://www.nyl.com/content/top_stories/153452/brooklyn-fire-leaves-nine-injured--dozens-displaced

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

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Dams Sector

47. *December 30, Associated Press* – (California) **Calif. flood plan calls for up to \$17B in repairs.** The California State Department of Water Resources released the first statewide flood-control plan December 30, and it calls for \$14 billion to \$17 billion in repairs and other investments. The proposal details the dire status of levees and other infrastructure along the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems. Officials said more than half of the state's 1,500 miles of levees do not meet standards. Experts said the aging levees, if breached, pose a great

threat to life, property, and the state's drinking water supplies. The plan does not outline specific projects but recommends one new bypass and some needed repairs. The price tag includes the \$5 billion in flood bonds approved by voters 5 years ago.

Source:

http://www.salon.com/2011/12/30/calif_flood_plan_calls_for_up_to_17b_in_repairs_2_2/

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