



# Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report  
13 January 2012

## Top Stories

- Fifty people were accused of conspiring to sell the identities of hundreds of Puerto Ricans to undocumented immigrants on the U.S. mainland in the largest single fraud case ever for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. – *Fox News Latino*; *Associated Press* (See item [13](#))
- At least 12 people in the United States are believed to have been infected with a new strain of swine flu that is not covered by this season's vaccine and has the potential for human-to-human transmission. – *U.S. News and World Report* (See item [27](#))

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW**

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

1. *January 12, KOTV 6 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Four injured in chemical explosion in Edmond.** Four people were rushed to the hospital January 12 following a chemical explosion at a pipeline company in Edmond, Oklahoma. Firefighters said something started a fire at Tuboscope then sparked a chemical explosion that injured four men. They said by the time they arrived, the fire was out. They have reopened traffic in the area while they investigate what started the fire. The fire may have had contact with a

chemical called MEK, or Methyl Ethyl Ketone, and that may have caused the explosion. MEK is a liquid solvent used in surface coatings, adhesives, printing inks, chemical intermediates, magnetic tapes, and as dewaxing agents in lubricant base oil production.

Source: <http://www.newson6.com/story/16505465/chemical-explosion-in-edmond>

2. *January 12, Associated Press* – (National) **EPA: power plants main global warming culprits.** The most detailed data yet on emissions of heat-trapping gases show U.S. power plants are responsible for the bulk of the pollution blamed for global warming. According to information released by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) January 11, power plants released 72 percent of greenhouse gases reported to the EPA for 2010. The data includes more than 6,700 of the largest industrial sources of greenhouse gases, or about 80 percent of total U.S. emissions. The U.S. President's administration plans to regulate emissions of heat-trapping gases under existing law. A proposed rule to address pollution from new power plants could be released as early as this month. Eventually, the EPA will have to tackle facilities already in operation. The largest emitters will be the first in line. The largest greenhouse gas polluter in the nation in 2010, according to the EPA's data, was the Schererpower plant in Juliette, Georgia, owned by Southern Company. That coal-fired power plant reported releasing nearly 23 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, the chief greenhouse gas, in 2010.  
Source: <http://www.manufacturing.net/news/2012/01/epa-power-plants-main-global-warming-culprits>
3. *January 11, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Alaska officials say 6,300 gallons of crude oil, water spill at XTO facility at Nikiski.** Alaska environmental officials said a faulty gasket on a tank led to a spill of 6,300 gallons of crude oil and process water at the XTO Energy onshore facility in Nikiski, Alaska, January 9. The state department of environmental conservation said the spill was captured within a secondary containment area, and that no resources have been affected. XTO Energy responded with contractors January 9 to recover oil and process water from the containment area.  
Source:  
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/4c463a9e46a8480a94f4f038cefae878/AK--XTO-Energy-Spill/>
4. *January 11, Amarillo Globe-News* – (Texas) **Diamond Shamrock fined for violations.** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality approved a \$145,211 fine January 11 for air quality violations by Diamond Shamrock Refining at the Valero McKee Refinery in Moore County. The company signed an agreed order in the case but denied the allegations, which included emitting 139 pounds of sulfur dioxide August 30, 2010, well above the limit of 4 pounds per ton of sulfuric acid produced. Other violations involve delays in reporting emissions and actions, and in acquiring construction authorization. The order said Diamond Shamrock must give \$58,084 of the fine to the Texas PTA for a program to replace or retrofit older diesel school buses to reduce their emissions. The order also lists multiple administrative orders the agency has issued the company since 2006 concerning other reporting violations and unauthorized emissions.

Source: <http://amarillo.com/news/2012-01-11/diamond-shamrock-fined-violations#.Tw8RPoG9uuI>

5. *January 11, WHTM 27 Harrisburg* – (Pennsylvania) **Police: 2 stole \$250,000 in copper wire, tools.** Pennsylvania State Police have filed charges against two Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, men accused of stealing copper wiring from electrical substations and cell phone towers across a four-county area, WHTM 27 Harrisburg reported January 11. The men were also charged with stealing tools, generators, and landscape lights from businesses in Berks, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Schuylkill counties between March and September. Police said the thefts cost the companies a combined total of more than \$250,000, and caused severe damage to the electrical integrity of the substations and towers. The men face more than 150 counts each including theft, conspiracy, burglary, and receiving stolen property.

Source: <http://www.abc27.com/story/16498897/police-2-stole-250000-in-copper-wire-tools>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *January 12, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **I-30 reopens near Malvern after chemical spill.** A stretch of Interstate 30 in Arkansas reopened the morning of January 12 after a chemical spill shut down the roadway for more than 12 hours. The stretch of the interstate was shut down eastbound and westbound between Arkadelphia and Malvern after a truck crashed late June 11 and spilled hazardous materials. The spill happened around mile marker 86. State police said the truck was carrying propyl acetate, a flammable chemical.

Source: <http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=16504370>

For another story, see item [1](#)

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

7. *January 11, New York Times* – (International) **New study ranks countries on security of materials that fuel nuclear arms.** A survey by the Nuclear Threat Initiative, a private advocacy group in Washington D.C., and the Economist Intelligence Unit, a company in London that does risk analyses, ranked nuclear materials security across the world, the New York Times reported January 11. The study looked at 18 factors, including known quantities of nuclear materials, physical protections, accounting methods, and transportation security as well as larger societal factors such as political stability and corruption. Australia took first place in nuclear security, while the United States tied with Belgium as having the 13th most secure materials. North Korea came in last, with Pakistan second to last.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/12/science/study-ranks-countries-on-nuclear-security.html>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

8. *January 11, Salem News* – (Ohio) **Molten metal spill causes \$50K fire at castings plant.** No one was injured, but damages were estimated at \$50,000 after molten metal spilled and caught hydraulic lines on fire at Quaker City Castings in Salem, Ohio, January 9. City firefighters were called to the scene after a furnace malfunctioned, causing the molten metal to spill. Employees told firefighters they attempted to contain the fire with extinguishers and used up about 20 of them. Molten metal was burning under the machine, with the hydraulic lines burning. The fire was contained to the machine and service area, with smoke throughout the building.  
Source: <http://www.salemnews.net/page/content.detail/id/549684/Molten-metal-spill-causes--50K-fire-at-castings-plant.html?nav=5061>
9. *January 11, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **4 workers injured in West Des Moines fire.** Officials said four workers suffered minor injuries in a January 11 flash fire that led to the evacuation of about 350 people at the Goodrich Engine Components plant in West Des Moines, Iowa. The city fire marshal said employees were testing a flow injector for a gas turbine engine. The workers sent solvent through the engine that erupted. The fire was extinguished by the building's sprinkler system. Officials said four workers were treated for minor injuries at the scene. Other workers were transported to the company's other locations in West Des Moines.  
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ia-westdesmoinesfire,0,1876700.story>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *January 11, Military Times* – (Georgia) **Report: Multiple failures led to A-10 crash.** Pilot inexperience and a malfunctioning warning system contributed to an A-10C crash in 2011 that destroyed the aircraft and resulted in \$150,000 in environmental damage, according to an accident report released January 11. The September 26 crash occurred about 20 miles northwest of Moody Air Force Base in Georgia, during a functional check flight, which tests an aircraft's airworthiness after major maintenance. The U.S. Air Force pilot ejected safely from the aircraft before the \$14.7-million Warthog was destroyed. Investigators found several incidents culminated in dual-engine failure and the aircraft's subsequent crash. For one, the pilot was inexperienced at flying above 23,000 feet, according to the Air Force investigation. A warning system within the aircraft also malfunctioned, and the checks the pilot conducted at about 35,000 feet were not required by any sort of guidance.  
Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2012/01/air-force-a10-crash-report-011112w/>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

11. *January 12, Wausau Daily Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Manson Insurance officials ordered to pay \$5.2M to fraud victims.** Two former Manson Insurance officials must pay a total of \$5.2 million restitution they scammed from customers, according to a ruling issued the week of January 9 in a Wisconsin federal court. The list of about 700 Manson victims in line to collect restitution is a who's who of Wausau-area businesses and organizations, including the Wausau Area Hmong Mutual Association, Award Hardwood Floors, the Grand Theater Foundation, and Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork Co., according to federal court documents filed January 9. Manson's former chief executive officer (CEO) was sentenced in October to 5 years in prison, and the company's former treasurer was sentenced in December to 6 months in prison. The CEO was accused of forging customer signatures on loans to finance phony insurance premiums, embezzling credits from insurance companies, and fraudulently billing customers. The schemes cost more than 700 customers \$9.7 million, according to court documents. An assistant U.S. attorney said January 11 the \$5.2 million restitution was determined after some customers were repaid or the losses were forgiven. A third suspect, Manson's former president, remains under investigation but has not been charged for his role in the schemes, the attorney said.

Source:

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20120112/WDH0101/201120474/Manson-Insurance-officials-ordered-pay-5-2M-fraud-victims?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

12. *January 12, Orlando Sentinel* – (Florida) **Major ID theft ring dismantled after thousands of credit cards, licenses seized from Apopka home.** A major identity theft ring in central Florida was busted by Apopka police after a 2-week investigation that started with a burglar alarm, officials said January 11. The Apopka police chief and the assistant commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), revealed details of the cyber-crime case in a neighborhood of large homes. About 1,000 stolen Florida driver licenses and 1,000 stolen credit cards were seized from a rented home filled with property bought online with stolen identities. That property included an 8-inch stack of gift cards, and 200 pairs of high-end shoes that were still in boxes. An Apopka SWAT team arrested the suspects January 10 when serving a search warrant at the house. Three handguns were found in the house, along with at least six laptops used to order items with the stolen credit cards. The investigation has been turned over to FDLE's Cyber Crimes Investigation Unit, which will examine all of the records and other communications in the seized laptops. The case started 2 weeks ago when police answered a burglar alarm at the house. Neighbors complained about frequent visitors, parties, and loud cars speeding on the street.

Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/major-id-theft-ring-dismantled-after-thousands-of-2097540.html>

13. *January 12, Fox News Latino; Associated Press* – (National) **ICE takes down mega fake I.D. ring in Puerto Rico.** Fifty people were accused of conspiring to sell the identities of hundreds of Puerto Ricans to undocumented immigrants on the U.S. mainland in the largest single fraud case ever for U.S. Immigration and Customs

Enforcement (ICE), authorities said January 11. Hundreds of birth certificates, Social Security numbers, and driver's licenses were sold for up to \$2,500 a set as part of a black market ring based in Puerto Rico that operated from since at least April 2009, the ICE director said. "The vast majority were legitimate documents obtained by fraudulent or false means," he said. The alleged ring consisted of suppliers, runners, and brokers, who made coded phone calls asking for "skirts" for female customers and "pants" for male customers in specific "sizes," which referred to ages and identities sought, the ICE noted. The documents would be sent through priority or express mail from Puerto Rico to brokers that operated in at least 15 states including Ohio, Texas, Florida, and North Carolina, officials said. The U.S. Assistant Attorney General said suppliers even allegedly offered to exchange documents if customers were not satisfied, adding he did not know how much money was made overall. About 80 percent of the documents involved were sold by Puerto Ricans whose names were on them, officials said. Those documents often were then used to apply for a driver's license or a U.S. passport or to commit financial fraud. The ICE director said another 20 arrest warrants were issued January 11 in separate but similar cases, with 61 of 70 suspects either arrested or whose surrender was arranged. The investigation began with a tip from police in Illinois, which led to a nearly 2-year undercover operation called "Island Express." The 50 suspects were indicted by a federal grand jury December 29 on one charge each of conspiracy to commit identification fraud.

Source: <http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2012/01/12/ice-take-down-largest-black-market-id-ring-in-puerto-rico/>

14. *January 11, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge* – (Louisiana) **Man creates fake checks totaling over \$18M, sent to prison.** A Baton Rouge, Louisiana, man was found guilty of multiple bank fraud charges following a jury trial and was sentenced to 90 months imprisonment and forfeiture of various assets, WAFB 9 Baton Rouge reported January 11. The suspect was arrested on federal charges in March 2010 by Special Agents with the U.S. Treasury Department and FBI. The defendant manufactured fraudulent checks and money orders totaling over \$18 million for the purpose of selling them to others and for his personal use, including obtaining numerous vehicles. He earned over \$400,000 from his illegal venture, while defrauding the Internal Revenue Service of hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid taxes and penalties.

Source: <http://www.wafb.com/story/16499670/man-creates-fake-checks-totalling-over-18m-sent-to-prison>

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## **Transportation Sector**

15. *January 12, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Southwest says it's helping investigate close call.** Southwest Airlines said it is cooperating with federal officials investigating a close call on a runway in Chicago last month. A Southwest plane that had just landed at Midway Airport was preparing to cross a runway when the co-pilot yelled at the pilot to stop to avoid a smaller jet that was taking off. Federal officials said air traffic controllers did not cancel the smaller jet's takeoff clearance or tell the Southwest plane to stop. The planes came within less than 300 feet of each other during the December 1

incident. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) declined to say whether it took action against any air traffic controllers. The FAA judged the incident to be less serious than a near-collision, instead categorizing it as one in which there was ample distance between planes to avoid a crash. A Southwest spokesman said January 11 the airline was cooperating with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigation. The NTSB said in a preliminary report that air traffic controllers cleared a Learjet for takeoff on Midway's runway 31R and told the Southwest pilot to cross the same runway before contacting ground control. The Southwest co-pilot saw the Learjet taking off and yelled to the captain to stop, according to the NTSB. The pilot stopped the plane before it reached the runway's edge.

Source: [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/45962847/ns/travel-news/#.Tw738YES\\_CI](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/45962847/ns/travel-news/#.Tw738YES_CI)

For more stories, see items [6](#), [28](#), and [33](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

16. *January 4, Kearney Courier* – (Missouri) **Sheriff: Letter carrier stole mail, burglarized homes.** A Kearney, Missouri mail carrier allegedly orchestrated 11 home burglaries and stole mail along her rural route, according to the Clay County Sheriff's Office. Three people, including the mail carrier, all of Excelsior Springs, were charged with the October burglary of the home of a 92-year-old decorated World War II veteran. His home, as well as the other burglarized homes, is near Watkins Mill State Park. The three individuals pleaded not guilty to the charges December 28. The sheriff's department believes the trio was responsible for another 10 burglaries in the area in a 2-month span, the sheriff said. The U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) Office of Inspector General is investigating the mail carrier for theft as well. A USPS spokesman said the mail carrier was placed on unpaid administrative leave. He said sheriff's deputies were able to recover a significant amount of the stolen property.

Source: <http://www.kccommunitynews.com/kearney-courier/30132030/detail.html>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *January 12, KPRC 2 Houston* – (Texas) **Chemical leak shuts down Dr. Pepper plant.** Workers at a Dr. Pepper Bottling Plant in southwest Houston were evacuated after a chemical leak January 11, according to Houston firefighters. The hazmat team responded to a call for help at the plant. Crews found a piece of machinery that was leaking ammonia. The leak was capped and fixed. Large fans had to be used to clear the air in the bottling area. After 3 hours, workers were able to return to their stations.
18. *January 12, Food Safety News* – (Minnesota) **29 high schoolers infected with rare E. coli strain from deer.** A high school environmental science experience went awry

when 29 students became infected with a lesser-known strain of pathogenic *E. coli* from the white-tailed deer they hunted, butchered, and barbecued for a class project, Food Safety News reported January 12. The incident, which happened more than a year ago, came to the media's attention for the first time January 11, when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a study on the outbreak written by researchers at the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). In November, 2010, two students from the environmental science class were admitted to a hospital with diarrhea. They shared the same doctor, who suspected their symptoms might indicate *E. coli* O157:H7 infections. When both students tested negative for O157, the doctor called the MDH, whose epidemiologist, discovered they were infected with *E. coli* O103:H2, another Shiga toxin-producing strain and one of the "Big Six" non-O157 strains soon to be regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in ground beef. It did not take long for the health department to trace back the infections to school barbecues where more than 200 students learned to field dress deer and help a professional butcher chop chunks of venison into kabob pieces. Students were also largely responsible for cooking their own meat, which was cut from one of seven deer, at least one of which carried *E. coli* O103, as well as O145:NM, a nonvirulent strain. Through interviews, the health department found 27 other students had diarrhea in the days following the barbecue.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/29-high-schoolers-infected-with-rare-e-coli-strain-from-deer/>

19. *January 12, Food Safety News* – (National) **CDC: Salmonella chicken liver outbreak has ended.** In what was the country's largest foodborne illness outbreak of 2011, in terms of number of illnesses, chicken livers contaminated with *Salmonella* Heidelberg sickened 190 people in 6 states. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said the outbreak is over, Food Safety News reported January 12. In its final investigation update, the CDC said 109 of the outbreak cases were reported by New York. New Jersey reported 62 cases, Pennsylvania 10, Maryland 6, Ohio 2, and Minnesota 1. The final outbreak tally included 11 more cases than had been reported in the CDC's last update November 21. Investigators determined the illnesses were linked to kosher chicken livers sold under the MealMart brand by Schreiber Processing (doing business as Alle Processing) of Maspeth, New York. The product label stated "broiled" chicken livers, which may have led consumers, grocers, and restaurant cooks to believe the only partially cooked livers were fully cooked and therefore safe to eat.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/cdc-salmonella-chicken-liver-outbreak-has-ended/>

20. *January 12, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergen alert: Mislabeled crab soup.** Blount Fine Foods of Fall River, Massachusetts, is recalling certain crab soup, distributed to some Whole Foods retail stores on the East Coast, because a labeling mistake omits the milk, wheat, and crab ingredients, Food Safety News reported January 12. The back label on some of the company's Rip Roarin' Crab Soup incorrectly identifies the product as Manhattan Clam Chowder, so the ingredient statement does not list the allergens.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/allergen-alert-mislabeled-crab-soup/>

21. *January 12, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergen alert: Chocolate chip cookies with milk, eggs.** D. F. Stauffer Biscuit Co. is recalling one specific lot of Safeway Snack Artist Sugar Free Bite-Sized Chocolate Chip Cookies because the cookies contain undeclared milk and eggs, Food Safety News reported January 12. The company said the cookie containers were affixed with an incorrect back label that did not list milk and eggs as ingredients. The recall is for Safeway Snack Artist Sugar Free Bite-Sized Chocolate Chip Cookies packaged in 10-ounce clear plastic tubs. This recalled lot was sold in Safeway, Carrs, Dominick’s, Genuardi’s, Pak ‘N Save, Pavilions, Randalls, Tom Thumb, and Vans stores nationwide.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/allergen-alert-chocolate-chip-cookies-with-milk-eggs/>
  
22. *January 12, Food Safety News* – (New York; New Jersey) **Imported sliced herring recalled due to Listeria.** Zip International Group of Edison, New Jersey, is recalling sliced herring imported from Ukraine because of Listeria contamination, Food Safety News reported January 12. Routine sampling by New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets food inspectors and subsequent testing found the sliced herring, known as Forelka, to be positive for Listeria monocytogenes. The Forelka comes in 330-gram and 600-gram plastic containers. The imported herring fillet was sold in the New York metropolitan area.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/01/imported-sliced-herring-recalled-due-to-listeria/>
  
23. *January 11, Examiner.com* – (Georgia) **Early morning blaze guts Gwinnett County Taco Bell.** Fire gutted the inside of a Taco Bell January 11 in Grayson, Georgia. It is unclear how long the fire was burning at the business, which was closed, before a passing motorist saw the flames and called 911. About 6 minutes later, firefighters arrived to find heavy smoke conditions showing from the fast food restaurant’s roof and sides, a Gwinnett County fire spokesman said. The fire caused extensive damage to the inside of the business, but very little damage to the outside.  
Source: <http://www.examiner.com/public-safety-in-atlanta/early-morning-blaze-guts-gwinnett-county-taco-bell>

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## **Water Sector**

24. *January 12, Bradenton Times* – (Florida) **City of Bradenton fined by DEP for summer sewage spill.** The Bradenton, Florida public works department was charged \$25,000 by the Florida Department of Environmental Services (DEP) for a sewage spill June 14 that resulted in 3.5 million gallons of raw sewage leaking into the Manatee River. The DEP cited the city for six counts of non-compliance with state regulations for the Bradenton Wastewater Treatment Facility, however, they are allowing the city to offset this amount by implementing an in-kind project. The public works director said instead of paying the fine, his department will purchase and install Chemsan equipment that will continuously monitor the water that comes out of the treatment facility.

Source:

[http://www.thebradentontimes.com/news/2012/01/12/environment/city\\_of\\_bradenton\\_fined\\_by\\_dep\\_for\\_summer\\_sewage\\_spill/](http://www.thebradentontimes.com/news/2012/01/12/environment/city_of_bradenton_fined_by_dep_for_summer_sewage_spill/)

25. *January 11, Alamogordo Daily News* – (New Mexico) **Timberon warned to boil water.** The New Mexico Environment Department’s Drinking Water Bureau issued a “precautionary boil water advisory” for the Timberon Water and Sanitation District (TWSD) January 10. The precautionary advisory was issued after a series of events led to a water outage for about half of the water system, in addition to insufficient pressure in the remaining areas of the drinking water system. The TWSD’s acting general manager said the main transfer pump had to be replaced. No contamination was detected in the drinking water system. Officials said the system will be running at full capacity in a few days.

Source: [http://www.alamogordonews.com/ci\\_19725013](http://www.alamogordonews.com/ci_19725013)

26. *January 11, KTXS 12 Sweetwater* – (Texas) **Sewage spill at Ranger Wastewater Treatment Plant.** Workers in Ranger, Texas, are cleaning up a sewage spill caused by heavy rain January 9. The wastewater treatment plant was not able to handle all of the rain, resulting in a discharge of 100,000 to 150,000 gallons. The spill began sometime after midnight January 9. The public works director said some of the spill went into creeks east of the plant. Crews and trucks are working to suck up the sludge. The director said the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is monitoring the situation.

Source: [http://www.ktxs.com/big\\_country\\_news/30191888/detail.html](http://www.ktxs.com/big_country_news/30191888/detail.html)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

27. *January 11, U.S. News and World Report* – (National) **12 infected with new swine flu strain.** At least 12 people are believed to have been infected with a new strain of swine flu that is not covered by this season’s vaccine, U.S. News and World Report reported January 11. The new swine flu strain, H3N2v, has shown at least some potential for human-to-human transmission in those 12 individuals, which makes it especially dangerous. The 12 people with the new swine flu strain live in Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Officials for the Centers for Disease Control said the sample size of H3N2 infections is too small to know whether it will pose a threat to the population at large. H3N2v or another new flu strain could disrupt what CDC officials expected to be a relatively quiet flu season. While it is too early to tell if the new H3N2 strain (or another unexpected strain) will develop into a larger threat, the CDC admits the current vaccine will do little to help stop the virus.

Source: <http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2012/01/11/12-infected-with-new-swine-flu-strain>

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## Government Facilities Sector

28. *January 12, Independent Florida Alligator* – (Florida) **Student seriously injured after explosion in chemistry lab.** A chemical reactant explosion at Sisler Hall at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, seriously injured a student and shut down traffic January 11, and authorities said the building would be closed January 12. The Gainesville Fire Rescue (GFR) Department chief said a student was working alone in a lab on the second floor “under a protective hood” when the explosion occurred. Paramedics transported the student to the hospital in serious condition to be treated for burns. After the explosion, a GFR hazardous materials unit set up a makeshift bathing station where the team hosed people down outside the building. Police blocked off the surrounding traffic area, which created a backlog of about seven city buses. According to GFR, one of the known agents involved in the research is sodium azide, a chemical found in some rocket propellants and car airbags. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identifies sodium azide as a potentially deadly chemical that, when involved in an explosion, can cause burns and expose people to toxic gas. Officials remained at the scene for more than 4 hours.  
Source: [http://www.alligator.org/news/local/article\\_570d47f8-3caf-11e1-923f-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.alligator.org/news/local/article_570d47f8-3caf-11e1-923f-0019bb2963f4.html)
29. *January 11, WISH 8 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Greenwood Middle students sent home following bomb threat.** Students at Greenwood Middle School in Greenwood, Indiana were evacuated and bussed home following a bomb threat January 11. Police said the threat was made to the 911 center. The caller told dispatchers there was a bomb in the school. The school also received two phone calls saying there was an explosive in the school. The students were evacuated to Greenwood High School by school bus due to the rainy conditions outside, police said.  
Source: [http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/local/south\\_central/greenwood-middle-school-evacuated](http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/local/south_central/greenwood-middle-school-evacuated)
30. *January 11, Associated Press* – (Connecticut; Maine) **EPA: Military tenants weren’t told of lead risks.** Housing providers at U.S. Navy bases in Connecticut and Maine failed to notify military families about potential hazards from lead-based paint, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said January 10. Northeast Housing LLC and Balfour Beatty Military Housing Management LLC face a possible fine of \$153,070 for allegedly violating disclosure laws at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut, and at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, the EPA said. Housing at both bases is owned by Northeast, a joint venture between the Navy and Balfour Beatty Communities LLC. Three renters in Groton and 10 in Portsmouth were not provided with available records and reports regarding lead paint, according to the EPA. Seven of the renters had families with children younger than 6. Balfour Beatty, which manages more than 2,100 units of military housing at the two bases, said the EPA complaint relates to 13 leases executed from 2008 to 2010. It said those residents were told of the presence of lead-based paint in their homes, but they were not given a full list of reports.  
Source: [http://www.pressherald.com/news/epa-military-tenants-werent-told-of-lead-risks\\_2012-01-11.html](http://www.pressherald.com/news/epa-military-tenants-werent-told-of-lead-risks_2012-01-11.html)

31. *January 11, Edmond Sun* – (Oklahoma) **UCO evacuates buildings due to suspicious substance.** Several buildings on the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) campus in Edmond, Oklahoma, were evacuated January 11 following the discovery of a potentially explosive substance. As personnel from UCO, the Edmond Police Department, and the Edmond Fire Department worked, a UCO spokesman said a visiting scholar discovered picric acid in a Howell Hall chemistry lab that he thought was potentially dangerous. Picric acid is an odorless, crystalline solid that has been used as a military explosive, as a yellow dye, and as antiseptic. It is primarily used in laboratories as a chemical reagent. Potentially old picric acid is very volatile.  
Source: <http://www.edmondsun.com/local/x2146229878/UCO-evacuates-buildings-due-to-suspicious-substance>
32. *January 10, Reuters* – (Washington) **Army lifts lockdown at Washington state base over missing gear.** U.S. Army officials January 10 lifted lockdown restrictions on 100 soldiers at Washington state's Joint Base Lewis-McChord while continuing a probe of \$600,000 in missing optics equipment. A Joint Base Lewis-McChord spokesman said the soldiers, members of the 4th Stryker Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division's Charlie Company at the base, were allowed to return to their homes. Army officials "felt they had enough information to be able to continue the investigation," the spokesman said. The Army's Criminal Investigation Command is investigating the theft of the sensitive weapons accessories, which include hundreds of night-vision goggles, weapons sights, and other optics gear. The theft did not include military-grade weapons and does not pose a public threat, Army officials said. The Army has offered a \$10,000 reward for information regarding the missing equipment.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/11/us-army-equipment-idUSTRE80A0A620120111>

For more stories, see items [12](#), [13](#), [41](#), and [45](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

33. *January 12, Missoula Missoulian* – (Montana; Wyoming) **Wireless outage left some bus crash responders in the dark.** Even as a Rimrock Stages bus went careening out of control on icy Interstate 90 near Missoula, Missouri, January 8, Verizon Wireless engineers were scrambling to restore statewide service. A switch in Helena that manages all voice and data traffic on the system failed around 1 a.m. as engineers performed routine software upgrades. Customers in Montana and parts of northern Wyoming were without service until 7:30 a.m., according to a Verizon spokesman. The bus wreck west of Clinton that killed two and sent dozens to Missoula hospitals occurred at 7:15 a.m. Fortunately, a potential ambulance crisis was averted. Missoula Emergency Services Inc. (MESI) has 50 employees and enough received the all-page voice recording on home phones to cover the emergency. The Verizon outage "did definitely have some impact," the director of Missoula County Emergency Services said. "They have good radio communication and paging equipment that is owned by the county, and that was completely successful." The second tier of notifications ran

into more snafus. The outage was “definitely an inconvenience” for Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) road crews when the storm hit, a department spokeswoman said. A lot of crews were notified in the hours before the wreck, but those who relied on Verizon didn’t get the word immediately. The MDT is reviewing the incident “to look at changes we may make if the situation were to occur again,” she said. A hospital vice president at Community Medical Center said she is a Verizon customer and didn’t get a text notification of the wreck until about 8:45 a.m. But that had no impact on the emergency room’s readiness when more than 20 injury victims began arriving by ambulance. The same was true at St. Patrick Hospital, a public information coordinator said. According to one survivor, some of the bus crash victims who tried to call 9-1-1 had trouble getting through. The Verizon spokesman said he hadn’t received confirmation that 9-1-1 access went down during the Verizon outage. Source: [http://missoulian.com/news/local/wireless-outage-left-some-crash-responders-in-the-dark/article\\_1274f652-3cde-11e1-a843-0019bb2963f4.html](http://missoulian.com/news/local/wireless-outage-left-some-crash-responders-in-the-dark/article_1274f652-3cde-11e1-a843-0019bb2963f4.html)

34. *January 11, Associated Press; Fresno Bee* – (California) **Officials say several inmates hurt in prison riot.** California prison officials said several inmates were hurt when about 300 inmates rioted January 11 at Kern Valley State Prison in Delano. California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation officials told the Fresno Bee the injured inmates suffered stab, puncture, and slash wounds, though none were life-threatening. No staff members were hurt, but correctional officers were told to fire two warning shots to break up the disturbance, which began in a recreation yard. The incident came after five inmates were treated for stab wounds in a riot January 10, that involved about 60 inmates at the California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility and State Prison in Corcoran. A corrections department spokeswoman said the two riots are unrelated. Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/01/11/4182046/officials-say-several-inmates.html>
35. *January 11, KRDO 13 Colorado Springs* – (Colorado) **2 fire hydrants fail during fire, 1 failed previous inspection.** 2 fire hydrants in a water district just south of Colorado Springs, Colorado failed to work during a fire January 11. One failed an inspection, but was never fixed. Stratmoor Hills Water District records show the hydrants were inspected and tested in October. One worked then, but was frozen during the fire. Officials are still investigating why it was frozen. The other hydrant failed the inspection, but was never fixed. The fire started early January 11, according to Stratmoor Hills Fire Department, everyone was able to evacuate the burning home safely. The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office said neighboring homes were evacuated as crews worked to contain the fire. One home next door suffered heat damage. Source: <http://www.krdo.com/news/30192009/detail.html>
36. *January 11, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **Stolen drugs prompt ambulance changes.** Nearly a month since Clay County, Florida investigators learned medications from ambulances had been stolen and tampered with, those rescue units are making changes so it does not happen again, WJXT 4 Jacksonville reported January 11. Investigators are still looking for the people who stole the powerful pain medications, compromising them in more than half of the rescue units in the county. In many of the Clay County ambulances, vials of pain killing medication and anti-seizure drugs were

unknowingly replaced with water or some type of saline solution, officials said. The county learned of it last month and has since been looking for who did it. The biggest change in procedure is the vials are now sealed at the top, which makes it more apparent if the seal is broken or tampered with. Patients have been notified about the incidents, but there have been no reports of problems so far, health officials said.

Source: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/Stolen-drugs-prompt-ambulance-changes/-/475880/7796258/-/i3itnyz/-/>

37. *January 11, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Memphis officer charged with computer fraud.** Federal prosecutors have charged a Memphis, Tennessee police officer with illegally accessing the FBI's National Crime Information Center database. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee said January 11 it charged a 36-year-old officer with two counts of computer fraud, and one count of lying to a federal agency. He was arrested January 10. Prosecutors said he accessed the crime database two times to aid a confidential source for illegal purposes. The FBI said he denied using the database to help the source. The U.S. attorney said the officer abused his position of trust in accessing the database. If convicted on all counts, he faces up to 15 years in prison.

Source: <http://www.wrcbtv.com/story/16500214/memphis-officer-charged-with-computer-fraud>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

38. *January 11, Government Computer News* – (International) **Internet set for 'most significant' domain expansion in history.** The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) will begin accepting applications for new generic Top Level Domain names January 13. The ICANN, the nonprofit corporation that oversees the Internet's Domain Name System, is moving ahead with the expansion despite concerns it poses a threat to organizations that could be forced to spend large amounts to defensively register domain names to protect trademarks and other intellectual property. Some legislators and other U.S. officials have called for a delay in the program to address these concerns.

Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2012/01/11/icann-ready-top-level-domain-expansion-gtlds.aspx>

39. *January 11, The Register* – (International) **Mozilla deploys Firefox safety net for corporate mindreaders.** Mozilla has pledged to update old versions of Firefox with security fixes, granting enterprises extra time to test and deploy major upgrades of the browser safe in the knowledge that vulnerabilities in existing installations will be patched. It is unclear which builds will fall onto Mozilla's safety net, however, so IT departments are more or less left to bet on running the right versions on their corporate machines. Announced January 10, the Firefox Extended Support Release (ESR) will maintain builds of desktop Firefox for a period of 54 weeks, covering nine full releases of Mozilla's browser, the non-profit said. Each ESR will be updated with point releases that will be limited to what Mozilla called "high-risk/impact security vulnerabilities" —

those risks considered “critical” and “high.” Functional enhancements and stability fixes in new point releases will not be back ported.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/01/11/mozilla\\_firefox\\_extended\\_support/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/01/11/mozilla_firefox_extended_support/)

40. *January 11, H Security* – (International) **Wireshark 1.4.x and 1.6.x updates close security holes.** Versions 1.4.11 and 1.6.5 of the open source Wireshark network protocol analyzer have been released, fixing bugs and closing holes found in the previous builds. The maintenance and security updates to the cross-platform tool fix several vulnerabilities that could be exploited by an attacker to cause a denial-of-service or compromise a victim’s system. The vulnerabilities include a NULL pointer deference error when displaying packet information, issues in the file parser that cause Wireshark to fail to properly check record sizes for many packet-capture formats, and an RLC dissector buffer overflow bug. Versions 1.4.0 to 1.4.10 and 1.6.0 to 1.6.4 are affected; upgrading to the new releases fixes these issues.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Wireshark-1-4-x-and-1-6-x-updates-close-security-holes-1407576.html>

For another story, see item [42](#)

### 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

41. *January 12, Cape Cod Times* – (Massachusetts) **Verizon restores phone service in Truro.** A land-line telephone outage that kept Truro Town Hall and many others in the Massachusetts town incommunicado for the entire day January 10 was resolved after nearly 13 hours, a Verizon spokesman said. The outage affected at least 200 Verizon land-line customers in Truro and was attributed to a problem in the company’s central office in Wellfleet, the spokesman said. Verizon received about 60 reports as a result of the problem. “We had technicians in the field this morning testing and verifying, and I have not heard there have been any issues with the restoral,” the spokesman said January 11.

Source:

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120112/NEWS/20120318/-1/NEWSMAP>

42. *January 11, The Register* – (International) **T-Mobile ‘fesses up to secure email ban gaffe.** T-Mobile was caught blocking the secure transmission of e-mails earlier in January, and VPNs too, but the operator claims the former was a mistake while the latter is a legacy from a bygone era, The Register reported January 11. The problem

turned up around the end of December when some people found T-Mobile was responding to all encrypted SMTP connections, other than to its own servers, with a reset (RST) packet. That was then compounded into conspiracy when a user realized his Virtual Private Network connections were not being let through either, which turns out to be an unrelated and unfixed issue. T-Mobile employs many techniques to make sending spam over its network difficult, including blocking connections made to arbitrary SMTP mail servers. Secure connections, which are then generally authenticated with a name and password, are permitted as they are useless to spammers, but for a week or two T-Mobile's network was rejecting secure connections as well as the insecure ones. On T-Mobile's network, secure SMTP should work, and for most people VPNs should work too, but a failing VPN is probably down due to an old contract.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/01/11/t\\_mobile\\_security/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/01/11/t_mobile_security/)

43. *January 11, WHNS 21 Greenville* – (South Carolina; North Carolina; Georgia) **WHNS broadcasting again after lightning strike, fire.** WHNS 21 Greenville was once again broadcasting over its main transmitter in South Carolina January 11 after a lightning strike and subsequent fire took it off the air earlier in the day. Engineers said a lightning strike traveled into the transmitter house on a phone line, which caused a fire and damaged equipment necessary to broadcast a signal about 1 p.m. By 7 p.m., the transmitter was broadcasting again.

Source: <http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/16497730/whns-transmitter-out-until-tonight-for-some-viewers>

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [33](#)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

44. *January 12, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **FBI probes firebombing of New Jersey synagogue.** Several Molotov cocktails and other incendiary devices were thrown at a New Jersey synagogue January 11, igniting a fire in the second-floor bedroom of the rabbi's residence in an attack that is being treated as a bias crime and attempted murder, police said. The attack on Congregation Beth El in Rutherford was the fourth bias incident within a month against a Jewish religious institution or center in northern New Jersey, police said. Within the last 3 weeks, a fire was intentionally set at a synagogue in Paramus and anti-Semitic graffiti was discovered at synagogues in Hackensack and Maywood. A Bergen County prosecutor said there was no evidence yet linking the four incidents, but they had not ruled out that they might be connected. In addition to being classified as a bias crime, the latest intentionally set fire was possibly the work of more than one person. "The manner in which this heinous crime has been committed has brought our office to really raise consciousness on this," the prosecutor said. "This is certainly a hate crime, this is certainly a bias crime, this is aggravated arson, but most importantly, we are now looking on this as an attempted homicide." A wide coalition of law enforcement agencies, including the Newark office of the FBI, is participating in the investigation.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/01/12/fbi-probes-firebombing-new-jersey-synagogue/?test=latestnews>

45. *January 12, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **North Carolina tornado: Twister rips through 2 counties, destroying dozens of buildings.** The National Weather Service said January 12 it was a tornado that damaged dozens of homes and injured at least 15 people in western North Carolina. Investigators confirmed the tornado winds of around 115 miles per hour. The storms struck in Rutherford and Burke counties January 11 as a cold front moved through. Ten people were hurt in Ellenboro in Rutherford County, a sheriff's official said. At least 10 buildings were damaged in a 3-square-mile residential area, but officials expected to get a better count on the damage during surveys January 12. Some people initially were trapped in their homes. At least five people were hurt when the storm struck in the Icard area in eastern Burke County. "We know we have 16 homes destroyed and about 50 that have been damaged to various degrees," the Burke County fire marshal said. Burke County schools planned to open 2 hours later than usual January 12.

Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/12/north-carolina-tornado\\_n\\_1201100.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/01/12/north-carolina-tornado_n_1201100.html)

46. *January 12, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **'Suspicious' fire destroys 15 luxury boats at Illinois River marina.** A "suspicious" fire at a Seneca, Illinois, marina along the Illinois River destroyed 15 luxury boats and damaged a half dozen others January 12, officials said. "These boats were covered up since October. There's no reason for them to start burning," said the Seneca fire chief. "It's suspicious." The fire jumped from boat to boat in the closely packed Spring Brook Marina, on the south bank of the Illinois River. Damage could be upwards of \$1 million. In addition to the destroyed boats, which were all outside, a large steel storage shed also caught fire. The boats inside sustained smoke and heat damage. It took 30 firefighters from Seneca and four neighboring departments more than 6 hours to douse the flames.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-16-boats-aflame-at-seneca-marina-20120112,0,4533287.story>

47. *January 12, Daytona Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **Police nab suspected meth lab cooker.** A man who Daytona Beach, Florida police said is behind the production of at least three methamphetamine (meth) labs in the city — including the one that exploded the week of January 2 at a beachside hotel — was arrested January 11, the police chief said. The suspect was on the run since investigators said he was cooking meth in a room at the Bermuda House and the lab blew up. The explosion shattered the sliding glass doors, and the suspect then took the remnants of the lab and threw them onto the hotel's pool deck, police said. On January 10, the department of children and families alerted investigators to a house where there was a possible meth lab. The girl's mother told police the suspect brought over jars filled with chemicals used to make meth, police said. In mid-November, the suspect was also behind another meth lab at a house.

Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/breakingnews/2012/01/police-nab-suspected-meth-lab-cooker.html>

48. *January 12, Laconia Daily Sun* – (New Hampshire) **Police raid allegedly interrupts man cooking meth in downtown apartment at 7:45 a.m.** Acting on a tip generated the week of January 9, city police working with the New Hampshire Clandestine Drug Unit arrested a man for manufacturing methamphetamine in a Laconia apartment building. An official said January 11 police began working the tip and had a search warrant. Police said when they went to the apartment, the occupant was making three small pots of methamphetamine, a highly volatile derivative of over-the-counter cold medicine heated and combined with various household chemicals. This is the second time in 7 months city police closed down the core of downtown to apprehend a purported methamphetamine operation. In July, police apprehended a man, in front of the now-shuttered Colonial Theater, which is across the street from the most recent raid.  
Source: <http://www.laconiadailysun.com/node/126341/18661>

49. *January 11, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Pa. man charged with setting fire to Ohio church.** A Pennsylvania man accused of driving a car into his former Ohio church, setting the building on fire, and then watching it burn, has been charged with arson, a sheriff said January 11. The man was arrested January 10 after he drove a BMW into the doors of New Horizons Baptist Church in Marysville, Ohio, and sat on a swing set watching the church burn to the ground, the Union County sheriff said. The fire began near the car, but authorities were still trying to determine how it started, he said. Investigators are not sure whether the crash led to the fire or whether a match or lighter or some other device was used to start the fire. The man was charged with one count each of arson and receiving stolen property, according to Marysville Municipal Court officials.  
Source: <http://www.centredaily.com/2012/01/11/3048884/pa-man-charged-with-setting-fire.html>

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Dams Sector**

50. *January 11, KETV 7 Omaha* – (Iowa; Nebraska) **Army Corps works to strengthen levees.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in Council Bluffs, Iowa, repairing part of the Missouri River levee system, KETV 7 Omaha reported January 11. Crews were working on the levee near the North 28th Street pumping station. “The pipe failed and the pump station, wet well and gate structure had to be filled with concrete to prevent flood water from coming back into the city,” said a Council Bluffs city engineer. He said pressure from the river heavily damaged the pumping station. To fix the problem, crews need to tear down the levee and replace the pipe that pumps storm runoff water into the Missouri. Another pumping station near the Veteran’s Memorial Bridge will

have to be completely rebuilt. “The pump station actually started to tip and rotate away from the levee and there was concern that if it actually continued to move, it would fall away from the levee and actually pull away part of the levee system,” the engineer said. With federal funding now secured, the Corps intends to tackle erosion along the levee, and to widen and strengthen seepage berms. Engineers said once they are done, the levee will be stronger.

Source: <http://www.ketv.com/r/30186080/detail.html>

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