



## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 15 February 2012

### Top Stories

- The New York Times reported February 10 that supplies of preservative-free methotrexate — a drug essential for treatment of acute lymphoblastic leukemia, lupus, and rheumatoid arthritis — are in danger of running out within weeks. – *Everyday Health* (See item [25](#))
- Fire raged through the West End business district of Long Branch, New Jersey, February 13, destroying or damaging 10 businesses and 14 apartments before being brought under control. – *Ashbury Park Press* (See item [39](#))

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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. *February 14, New Castle News Journal* – (Delaware) **Delaware City Refinery pollution continues for second day.** The Delaware City Refinery in Delaware City, Delaware, reported a second day of major refining unit upsets February 13, with releases of sulfur dioxide gas from emergency-disposal flare burnoffs estimated at

28,000 pounds. The troubles affected the plant's catalytic cracking unit, a more than 80,000-barrel-per-day system that mainly produces gasoline from partially refined crude oil. A PBF Energy spokeswoman said electrical systems for pumps associated with the unit failed during maintenance preparations. Both were reported to be back in service. February 12, troubles in the plant's 54,500-barrel-per-day coking unit and a related pollution-control system sent odors, soot, and other pollutants blowing across Delaware City, prompting a large number of complaints in the community. The single-day releases by the plant February 13 exceeded 50 percent of the total annual sulfur-dioxide emissions that can trigger a factory's ranking as a major source of the pollutant under federal rules.

Source:

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20120214/NEWS08/202140337/Delaware-City-Refinery-pollution-continues-second-day?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|Home>

2. *February 13, Corpus Christi Caller-Times* – (National) **Study: Offshore wind farms at risk from hurricanes.** In the worst case, nearly half the turbines in proposed offshore wind farms along the most vulnerable parts of the Gulf and Atlantic coasts are likely to be destroyed by hurricanes in a 20-year period, a study published February 13 suggests. The study from Carnegie Mellon University says strategies should be considered to protect the reliability of the nation's electricity grid and reduce risks to wind farm operators before large-scale offshore wind development advances in the United States. Mitigation could include choosing different sites or paying more to increase the strength and maneuverability of turbines. The study, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, used data from three sites on the Eastern Seaboard and an area off Galveston County, with the latter being the most susceptible to hurricane damage, researchers concluded. A 50-turbine wind farm in Galveston County, Texas, would likely lose 16 turbines in 20 years, researchers found. A main concern is how a grid that is more dependent on wind power would be affected if wind towers buckle in a storm. The researchers hypothesized that generation reserves can be brought online to cover for wind plants shut down after a storm. Most damage is likely to come from Category 4 and 5 storms, according to the study.

Source: <http://www.caller.com/news/2012/feb/13/study-offshore-wind-farms-at-risk-from/>

3. *February 13, El Paso Fire Dispatch* – (Texas) **Major gas line rupture under investigation.** The Texas Gas Service isolated a broken gas line in El Paso, Texas, February 13 after construction crews working to replace underground pipes in the area broke the line. El Paso Fire Department and HAZMAT closed Gateway East Boulevard and later decided to close the eastbound lanes of I-10 to prevent passing traffic from sparking or igniting the gas. The fire department also evacuated 350 people from businesses south of the freeway. The break happened across the road from Del Sol Medical Center. As a result, the hospital closed its doors to outside traffic, but did not evacuate patients inside the building. Initially crews were not able to close the gas line because it was the same line Del Sol used. No serious injuries were reported, and the eastbound lanes of I-10 re-opened 30 minutes later.

Source: <http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/news/Major-gas-line-rupture-under-investigation/nHb54/>

4. *February 13, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Wisconsin) **US Labor Department’s OSHA cites Sanimax for violating process safety management procedures at De Forest, Wis., biodiesel plant.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited biodiesel manufacturer Sanimax Inc. for 13 safety violations at its De Forest, Wisconsin facility, according to a February 13 news release by the department. After receiving a complaint, the OSHA opened an inspection focused on process safety management standard for facilities that use hazardous chemicals. Proposed fines total \$76,500. Twelve serious violations of the PSM standard involved failing to have adequate information concerning the technologies of the process, such as safe upper and lower limits for temperature, pressures, flows and compositions, amongst others. One other-than-serious violation was for failing to develop a written plan of action for employee participation in the process safety management of the biodiesel process. Sanimax reclaims materials such as animal byproducts and used cooking oils for goods including tallow, glycerin, proteins, leather, and biofuels.

Source:

[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=21801](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21801)

5. *February 11, Towanda Daily Review* – (Pennsylvania) **DEP halts fracking at site after gas well failure.** A natural gas well in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, released waste fluids to a Forest Lake Township well pad the week of January 30, leading state regulators to halt all activity at the site. Two valves failed during fracking at Carrizo Marcellus’ Baker 4H well January 30, according to a state department of environmental protection (DEP) spokeswoman and a violation report. Company officials said they were injecting water and sand without chemical additives at the time of the failure. The DEP did not release an estimate of how much fluid escaped, but said it was flowing out at a rate of about 300 to 400 gallons a minute for less than half an hour. According to a violation notice, well control specialty firm Boots & Coots helped Carrizo workers shut down the well. Inspection reports show workers successfully replaced failed valves and completed the initial cleanup at the site by January 31. Boots & Coots performed an audit of the problem wellhead and fracking equipment.

Source: <http://thedailyreview.com/news/dep-halts-fracking-at-site-after-gas-well-failure-dep-halts-carrizo-fracking-at-susquehanna-county-site-after-gas-well-failure-1.1270279>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *February 14, Reuters* – (International) **Monsanto says to appeal French poisoning verdict.** U.S. agri-business giant Monsanto said February 14 it will appeal a French court ruling that found it responsible for the poisoning of a farmer who inhaled a weedkiller. “An in-depth examination of the case does not show in our view sufficient evidence of a causal link between the use of this herbicide and the symptoms reported,”

the head of institutional relations at Monsanto France told France Info radio. The farmer said his health problems of memory loss, headaches, and stammering were caused after he inhaled the Lasso weedkiller in 2004 while cleaning the tank of his crop sprayer. The appeal could take up to a year to be heard.

Source: [http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/wire-news/monsanto-says-to-appeal-french-poisoning-verdict\\_667884.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/wire-news/monsanto-says-to-appeal-french-poisoning-verdict_667884.html)

7. *February 14, WRCB 3 Chattanooga* – (Tennessee) **Ammonia leak discovered after small fire.** An anhydrous ammonia leak on Amnicola Highway in Chattanooga, Tennessee, shut down the highway for nearly 3 hours February 14. According to the Chattanooga Fire Department, the leak occurred at the BASF Corporation plant. The firm extinguished a small fire and had its response crew work with the fire department's HAZMAT team to locate and stop the leak from an anhydrous ammonia pump. Within 3 to 4 hours, the HAZMAT team confirmed the leak was shut off and the air in the area was safe to breathe. As a precaution, the area around the facility was evacuated, including along Amnicola Highway and Highway 153. Many businesses on Amnicola Highway, and Chattanooga State Community College were closed for several hours. BASF is conducting an investigation into what caused the fire and leak.  
Source: <http://www.wrcbtv.com/story/16928890/haz-mat-event-closes-annicola>
8. *February 13, KSAX 42 Alexandria* – (Minnesota) **Semi crash, chemical spill shuts down I-94.** A crash involving a semi carrying hydrochloric acid and a Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) truck closed off I-94 near Alexandria, Minnesota, February 13. Authorities were called to the scene on I-94 westbound, above Highway 114. The semi rear-ended the MnDOT truck where crews were working on the bridge. Authorities said the acid spilled on the roadway, and pollution control responded. Police said they expected one lane to be closed throughout the night February 13.  
Source: <http://ksax.com/article/stories/S2495323.shtml?cat=10230>
9. *February 10, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (National) **Industry progressing in voluntary effort to reduce toxic chemicals.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released February 10 interim results of a voluntary effort by eight chemical manufacturers to reduce emissions and use of long-chain perfluorinated chemicals (LCPFCs), including perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Used in hundreds of manufacturing and industrial applications, LCPFCs are toxic, persistent in the environment worldwide, and can accumulate in people. The agency's 2010/15 PFOA Stewardship Program was established in 2006 in partnership with eight companies. The program set a goal of reducing facility emissions and product content of PFOA and related chemicals on a global basis by 95 percent, no later than 2010, and to work toward eliminating emissions and product content by 2015. Daikin America, Inc., DuPont, 3M/Dyneon, and Solvay Solexis met the program's intermediate goal of a 95 percent reduction in emissions and product content by 2010, the EPA said. It noted 150 replacement chemicals have been developed. The eight manufacturers informed the EPA they are on track to phase out LCPFCs by the end of 2015.  
Source: <http://news.thomasnet.com/companystory/Voluntary-Effort-Makes-Progress-in-reducing-LCPFCs-PFOA-609677>

10. *February 10, U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee* – (National) **Committee leaders express concern over EPA policy that could compromise chemical facility security.** U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee leaders sent a letter February 10 to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator expressing concern over a recent announcement that they claimed could compromise sensitive data and make U.S. chemical manufacturing facilities more susceptible to terrorist attacks. They voiced strong opposition to the EPA’s decision to re-establish Internet access to manufacturers’ non-Off-site Consequence Analysis sections of the Risk Management Plan database, sections that contain lists of covered chemicals used, preventative measures, and the location in a plant where those chemicals are used. The leaders asked the administrator to reverse the decision. In the letter, they argued publishing the data could provide “a virtual terrorist roadmap into a chemical facility.” They added: “This is why EPA decided to remove all Risk Management Plan data from the Agency website in the fall of 2001.”

Source: <http://energycommerce.house.gov/news/PRArticle.aspx?NewsID=9292>

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

11. *February 13, MSNBC* – (National) **U.S. nuclear watchdog questions oversight of safety enforcement.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s (NRC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) faulted the NRC for failing to follow through on safety agreements with nuclear facilities, saying its system for tracking corrective action raises questions about its oversight of nuclear safety and security, MSNBC reported February 13. After an 8-month audit, the OIG concluded the commission has no centralized way to oversee or follow up on documents confirming a nuclear facility has committed itself to address “significant concerns regarding health and safety, the environment, safeguards or security.” The problem is one of red tape, not willful inaction or neglect, the report said. But the weaknesses — which include lack of consistent guidelines for regional NRC offices, regional offices’ failure to comply with those guidelines, and some offices’ lack of any tracking system whatsoever — “degrade” the agency’s accountability, the audit said.

Source: <http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/news/2012/02/13/10399062-us-nuclear-watchdog-questions-oversight-of-safety-enforcement?chromedomain=openchannel>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

Nothing to report

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## Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *February 14, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania; International) **Anonymous movement claims hacking attack on U.S. tear gas company.** The Web site of a Jamestown, Pennsylvania-based company whose tear gas was used against demonstrators in Egypt is the latest to be broken into by the Anonymous movement, the hackers claimed February 14. In a statement posted to the Internet, the hackers accused Combined Systems of being war profiteers who sell “mad chemical weapons to militaries and cop shops around the world.” Anonymous said it targeted Combined Systems because it was supplying weaponry used to “to repress our revolutionary movements.” The hackers also claimed to have stolen and published personal information belonging to clients and employees of the firm. Allegedly intercepted e-mails were pasted onto the bottom of the statement; one of them appeared to be a warning that Combined Systems’ site was sabotaged. Neither the hackers’ claims nor the authenticity of the e-mails could be immediately verified, although the Web site was down February 14. The company sells a variety of security wares, including aerosol grenades, sprays, and handcuffs. Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/tech/news/story/2012-02-14/anonymous-hacks-tear-gas/53087858/1>

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## Banking and Finance Sector

13. *February 13, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Man believed to be ‘Same Coat Bandit’ charged in Affton bank robbery.** A St. Louis man dubbed the “Same Coat Bandit” by authorities was charged February 13 in the February 3 robbery of an Affton, Missouri bank. He was charged with two counts of second-degree robbery. Authorities also suspect the man in three other recent bank robberies in the St. Louis area. The FBI labeled him the “Same Coat Bandit” because he apparently has worn the same tan jacket in each robbery. He is accused of robbing a Regions Bank the afternoon of February 3 when he walked in wearing a tan jacket and a bandana over his face. Police said he approached two tellers and demanded money but did not show a weapon. Authorities have said the “Same Coat Bandit” also robbed a Reliance Bank in Webster Groves, February 8, an Enterprise Bank and Trust in Clayton January 25, and the American Eagle Credit Union in St. Louis January 9. Source: [http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/man-believed-to-be-same-coat-bandit-charged-in-affton/article\\_88e93a28-5692-11e1-8b7f-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/man-believed-to-be-same-coat-bandit-charged-in-affton/article_88e93a28-5692-11e1-8b7f-001a4bcf6878.html)
14. *February 13, U.S. Department of Justice* – (New York) **New York man arrested on identity theft and tax fraud charges.** An East Meadow, New York man was arrested February 13 after being charged with identity theft and tax fraud after filing more than 200 false tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Justice Department and IRS announced. The suspect was named in a federal criminal complaint that alleged he used stolen identification data to file false tax returns to obtain fraudulent refunds. According to the complaint, he filed approximately 200 federal income tax returns from 2004 through 2010 using the identification information of others. The

complaint alleges he sought about \$4,393,356 in fraudulent refunds over the 6-year period.

Source: <http://www.justice.gov/tax/2012/txdv12212.htm>

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## **Transportation Sector**

15. *February 14, Connecticut Post* – (Connecticut) **Firefighters battle fire under railroad bridge.** A fire in a wooden trestle supporting a train bridge over the Housatonic River in Stratford, Connecticut burned for more than 3 hours February 12. The fire sparked behind the Dock Shopping Center on Ferry Boulevard. Two lanes of Interstate 95 on the Moses Wheeler Bridge were shut down as firefighters from Milford hit the flames from above with water cannons. The Sikorsky Aircraft Fire Department boat was used to fight the blaze from the river, while Stratford firefighters ran operations on the ground. The cause of the fire was not immediately known. It was originally called in as a brush fire in the marshy areas near the bridge, but firefighters soon realized the fire was inside the trestle. Train service was not affected by the fire, which was out by the next morning.

Source: <http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/Firefighters-battle-fire-under-railroad-bridge-3313301.php>

16. *February 14, Associated Press; Mountain Press* – (Tennessee) **School bus driver fired after weapon arrest.** The Sevier County School System in Sevierville, Tennessee fired a bus driver after her arrest on a weapon charge. She was terminated February 10 for possession of a firearm. It is illegal to carry a gun on a school bus under Tennessee law. The Sevierville Mountain Press reported the bus driver was at Seymour High School where she was driving for a field trip when an employee reported she might have a gun. The bus driver was booked into the county jail on a charge of carrying a weapon on school property.

Source: [http://www.necn.com/02/14/12/School-bus-driver-fired-after-weapon-arr/landing\\_nation.html?apID=73d38a403692422dad119fca88fc2c92](http://www.necn.com/02/14/12/School-bus-driver-fired-after-weapon-arr/landing_nation.html?apID=73d38a403692422dad119fca88fc2c92)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *February 13, Danville Commercial-News* – (Indiana) **Chemical spill occurs at farm.** Walker Farms is working with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management on a chemical spill that occurred February 10. A motorist notified the Vermillion County Sheriff’s Department about a “leak.” Investigators found a large amount of blackish, brown liquid leaking from a 6-foot tear in the side of a 500,000-gallon, above-ground steel liquid storage tank north of Cayuga. The sheriff’s department notified the tank owners and contacted the Vermillion County Emergency operations director. The liquid was contained by an earth wall built around two storage tanks. Walker Farms employees said the liquid was ammonium sulfate and they cleaned up the spill. Investigation revealed this storage tank had ruptured December 25, and the spill had been cleaned up with the intention of not using it again. The tank was to be taken down. But February 10, a Walker worker accidentally opened the wrong valve on pipes connecting the two tanks, which caused the chemical to be transferred from the good tank, to the bad tank. It was estimated that between 100,000 to 200,000 gallons leaked out from the tear.  
Source: <http://commercial-news.com/local/x980637542/Chemical-spill-occurs-at-farm>
18. *February 13, Food Safety News* – (National) **65 Campylobacter infections now tied to raw milk dairy.** An additional five cases have bumped up the number of confirmed Campylobacter infections linked to raw milk produced by the Your Family Cow dairy in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, to 65, the Pennsylvania Department of Health reported February 13. The latest breakdown of illnesses by state are: Pennsylvania (56); Maryland (4), West Virginia (3) and New Jersey (2). Unpasteurized milk in two unopened bottles from the dairy tested positive for the outbreak strain, according to Maryland health officials. After making some improvements to its equipment, the Family Cow dairy was cleared by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to resume selling raw milk the week of February 6.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/02/65-campylobacter-infections-now-tied-to-raw-milk-dairy/>
19. *February 13, Food Safety News* – (International) **Veal cubes recalled in Canada may contain metal.** Costco Wholesale Canada Ltd. recalled fresh veal cubes sold in certain Costco warehouses in eastern Canada because they may contain pieces of metal, Food Safety News reported February 13. The veal cubes have a best-before date of February 19 and were sold February 9 or 10.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/02/veal-cubes-recalled-in-canada-may-contain-metal/>
20. *February 13, Everett Daily Herald* – (Washington) **2 wounded, 2 arrested in shooting at Everett restaurant.** Two people were hospitalized and two men were arrested February 13 after shots rang out at an Everett, Washington restaurant. Police believe two men were unhappy about being told to leave Dos Reales when the restaurant was closing, an official said. Restaurant security escorted three men outside. That is when one of the men went to a car parked nearby and retrieved a handgun. He returned to the front of the store and began firing toward the building, striking the victims, according



to police reports. After the shooting, the suspected gunman fled in a vehicle with two others. Based on their investigation, detectives February 13 arrested two men believed to be responsible for the shooting.

Source: <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20120213/NEWS01/702139893>

21. *February 13, Central Florida News 13 Orlando* – (Florida) **Manufacturer urges facilities to stop using hyperbaric chambers following explosion.** The manufacturer of the hyperbaric chamber that exploded February 10 in Ocala, Florida, killing a veterinary employee and a horse, is urging facilities across the country to stop using them. The move comes as the government launched a safety investigation February 13 into the chambers and how they were used at the Marion County equine rehabilitation center. Investigators said a horse at Kesmarc Equine Rehabilitation Center ripped back the plastic with his steel horseshoe, creating a deadly spark in the oxygen-filled chamber, killing the horse and the operator outside. An investigator with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration said they will base their investigation on manufacturer's recommendations. The manufacturer, Veterinary Hyperbaric Oxygen, has given instructions to all of its users nationwide not to use the chambers until they can find more about what went wrong.  
Source: <http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/2012/february/382038/Manufacturer-urges-facilities-to-stop-using-hyperbaric-chambers-following-explosion>
22. *February 12, WBTW 13 Florence* – (South Carolina) **Seafare restaurant burns down in Myrtle Beach.** Horry County fire crews battled a fire at a Myrtle Beach, South Carolina restaurant. The Seafare Restaurant caught fire February 11, said a Horry County Fire Rescue spokesperson. The fire had a section of a highway shut down for a few hours while the crews worked to put the fire out. The Horry County assistant fire chief said more than 15 fire trucks and engines were on scene battling the two-alarm fire. He said a water boat was also brought in to help bring water in from the Intercoastal Waterway. When firefighters arrived, flames were shooting through the restaurant's roof. The assistant fire chief said the building will be a total loss, thanks in large part to the weather conditions.  
Source: <http://www2.scnow.com/news/grand-strand/2012/feb/11/3/seafarer-restaurant-fire-myrtle-beach-ar-3214369/>
23. *February 11, Examiner.com* – (Idaho) **Hepatitis A warning issued for customers of Boise Cheesecake Factory.** The Central District Health Department (CDHD) is warning customers of a Boise, Idaho restaurant of the potential risk for hepatitis A after a restaurant employee tested positive for the virus. According to a CDHD news release February 10, an employee of the Cheesecake Factory was confirmed positive for Hepatitis A but is no longer considered infectious. Although they say the risk is very low since the infected employee was not involved in food preparation, health officials are warning the public if they dined at the restaurant between December 13, 2011 and January 22. The Cheesecake Factory has fully cooperated with the investigation.  
Source: <http://www.examiner.com/infectious-disease-in-national/hepatitis-a-warning-issued-for-customers-of-boise-cheesecake-factory>

For another story, see item [6](#)

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## **Water Sector**

24. *February 13, Freemont News-Messenger* – (Ohio) **EPA begins testing sites for contamination.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began testing 14 sites in Sandusky County, Ohio, February 13 for possible contamination, a study spurred by a high number of childhood cancer cases in the area. Since the mid-1990s, at least 35 children in a 12-mile radius in the east half of the county have been diagnosed with various types of cancer. Four have died. The study may not find the root cause of the cluster, but any contamination it does uncover would still help the community, said the county administrator whose 11-year daughter, died of cancer in 2009. The sites, many of which are former dumps, were determined as possible areas of contamination by a 2009 study of the cancer cluster. Crews will take soil, water and gas samples from the ground at each site, a process expected to take 2-3 weeks. After the samples are tested and analyzed, the EPA expects to report any findings in the late spring or early summer.

Source: <http://www.thenews-messenger.com/article/20120213/NEWS01/120213007/EPA-begins-testing-sites-contamination>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

25. *February 13, Everyday Health* – (National) **Pending methotrexate shortage may affect thousands of patients.** The New York Times reported February 10 that Ben Venue Laboratories, one of the country's largest suppliers of preservative-free methotrexate, suspended operations at its Bedford, Ohio plant November 2011 due to what the company said were "significant manufacturing and quality concerns." Methotrexate is one of the most commonly prescribed rheumatoid arthritis drugs. It is also prescribed for lupus and other autoimmune conditions, and in an injectable, preservative-free version, methotrexate is used to treat acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), a type of cancer most often seen in young children. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) also stated that the four other firms that produce methotrexate have either slowed or stopped manufacturing the drug, according to a February 10 ABC News report. As a result, many fear supplies of methotrexate are in danger of running out within a matter of weeks. The potential shortfall is of greatest concern to patients with ALL and their families, since methotrexate injection into spinal fluid can keep the cancer from spreading or recurring. The preservative-free form is considered less toxic and thus preferable for this method of administration. The associate director of the FDA's drug shortages program told the Times the agency is looking for a foreign supplier to provide emergency imports of methotrexate until domestic manufacturers can meet the demand.

Source: [http://www.everydayhealth.com/rheumatoid\\_arthritis/0213/pending-methotrexate-shortage-can-affect-thousands-of-patients.aspx](http://www.everydayhealth.com/rheumatoid_arthritis/0213/pending-methotrexate-shortage-can-affect-thousands-of-patients.aspx)

26. *February 13, WPRI 12 Providence* – (Rhode Island) **RIH ordered to pay \$5.3M settlement.** Rhode Island Hospital has been ordered to pay out \$5.3 million for ordering unnecessary overnight hospital stays, WPRI 12 Providence reported February 13. The U.S. attorney's office said Rhode Island Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island, will reimburse federal health care programs about \$2.6 million dollars and will pay the federal government about \$2.7 million in double and triple damages for ordering those medically unnecessary overnight patient hospital stays. Officials said the hospital submitted claims on those patient stays for payment to Medicare and Medicaid. Federal investigators determined that from January 2004, through the end of 2009, medically unnecessary overnight hospital admissions were ordered for about 260 patients who underwent stereotactic radiosurgery, also known as Gamma Knife treatment.  
Source: [http://www.wpri.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/providence/rih-ordered-to-pay-53m-settlement?hpt=us\\_bn4](http://www.wpri.com/dpp/news/local_news/providence/rih-ordered-to-pay-53m-settlement?hpt=us_bn4)
27. *February 13, Lebanon Daily News* – (Pennsylvania) **Teen arrested for riot at Philhaven.** A York County, Pennsylvania girl was arrested, and four other youths face charges for causing a riot at Philhaven Hospital in Mt. Gretna, Pennsylvania, February 12. Police from Cornwall were called to quell a disturbance in the adolescent unit at the behavioral health-care facility. Youths assaulted a Philhaven staff member during the melee when they smashed furniture, a television, and a VCR, and damaged the walls and doors of the unit. While attempting to restore order, the girl punched a Cornwall officer in the face, police said. The girl was charged with aggravated assault on a police officer, riot, recklessly endangering, and disorderly conduct. She was turned over to county juvenile probation and placed in a juvenile detention facility, police said.  
Source: [http://www.ldnews.com/ci\\_19954813?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.ldnews.com/ci_19954813?source=most_viewed)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

28. *February 14, Associated Press* – (California) **Vandals damage new Richmond elementary school.** Officials said vandals caused at least \$500,000 in damage to a new elementary school building in Richmond, California, scheduled to open within weeks. West Contra Costa School District officials told the Contra Costa Times that vandalism February 12 was the second time in recent weeks the \$5 million Nystrom Elementary School building was marred. Officials found more than 30 windows shattered, floors flooded, and walls smeared with paint and other substances. Firefighters responding to an alarm caused by the flooding discovered the damage, but by then the perpetrators were gone. Officials believe adults are responsible for the damage, saying the vandals knew how to operate equipment and reached areas children would not be able to reach. The district estimated the vandalism would set the school's opening back by about 2 months.

Source: <http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/Vandals-damage-new-Richmond-elementary-school/WnE7OjOmu0SH9Wa4ocYaYg.cspX>

29. *February 14, Help Net Security* – (International) **Stratfor clients now targeted with malware.** The customers of Stratfor, a U.S.-based research group that provides geopolitical analysis to government organizations and major corporations, are being targeted again with malicious spam e-mails. Following the December breach of the company's servers by Anonymous and the stealing of names, home addresses, credit card details, and passwords of its clients, those very clients began to receive spear-phishing e-mails purportedly being sent by Stratfor's CEO, asking them to fill out an attached document with personal information. This time, the e-mails appear to be sent by a Stratfor administrator, who first warns clients not to open e-mails and attachments from "doubtful senders," and then urges them to download (attached) security software to check their systems for a nonexistent piece of malware. "The link displayed in the emails appears legitimate at first glance, but looking closely at the target address, you notice that it doesn't originate from the address in the email text," according to Microsoft. "Stratfor is based in Texas, United States however the download URL is located somewhere in Turkey. A sample of another PDF file contained a download link for yet another compromised site, this time in Poland." Less careful users will end up with a malicious PDF file or a variant of the Zbot information stealer trojan on their systems.

Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=1996](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1996)

30. *February 13, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado) **Freshman arrested in hammer attack at Columbine.** A Columbine High School student was arrested February 13, accused of beating two students with a hammer in Littleton, Colorado. The girl was arrested at the school and is facing a felony charge of first-degree assault, said a Jefferson County sheriff spokeswoman. The fight started in the girls' bathroom, said a school employee. The two girls were arguing when the suspect, a freshman, took a hammer out of her bag, he said. A boy tried to intervene, but he was hit in the hand with the hammer. Police and paramedics were called. The two victims were transported to the hospital, the sheriff spokeswoman said. She said one victim may have some broken bones. The juvenile suspect was transported to Mount View Detention Center.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/30447272/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [7](#) and [43](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

31. *February 13, Beatrice Daily Sun* – (Nebraska) **Police department evacuated.** The Beatrice, Nebraska Police Department was evacuated for about 2 hours February 13 as the result of a carbon monoxide threat. The police chief said the evacuation was the result of a collapsed chimney that trapped potentially dangerous gas inside the building. After the gas was pumped out of the building, workers returned, though the heat was yet to be turned on. During the evacuation, emergency communications were routed to

the court house, which gave officials an opportunity to prepare for other emergency situations.

Source: [http://beatricedailysun.com/news/local/police-department-evacuated/article\\_01899912-5681-11e1-951d-0019bb2963f4.html](http://beatricedailysun.com/news/local/police-department-evacuated/article_01899912-5681-11e1-951d-0019bb2963f4.html)

32. *February 13, Akron Beacon Journal* – (Ohio) **Sheriff closes jail to violent mentally ill.** The Summit County, Ohio sheriff planned to announce February 13 the county jail no longer will accept violent mentally ill and mentally disabled people arrested by area police — perhaps becoming the first facility in the country with such a policy. The sheriff has long complained that housing the mentally ill and disabled in jail is inhumane, and they belong in a mental hospital where they can be better treated. The sheriff met with police chiefs in Akron, Barberton, and Cuyahoga Falls, and sent letters late the week of February 6 to other chiefs to explain the policy.  
Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10628626/sheriff-closes-jail-to-violent-mentally-ill>
33. *February 13, WCSC 5 Charleston* – (South Carolina) **Ex-state trooper pleads guilty to role in marijuana operation.** A former South Carolina state trooper pleaded guilty in federal court February 13 to manufacturing and possessing with intent to distribute 100 or more marijuana plants. According to the U.S. attorney's office, the former state trooper, pleaded guilty to charges stemming back from a January 2010 arrest. Evidence presented at the February 13 change of plea hearing established the former state trooper was part of a large-scale, indoor marijuana growing operation while employed as a state trooper with the South Carolina Highway Patrol. The Dorchester County Metro Narcotics Unit discovered the operation in January 2010. Deputies found thousands of dollars worth of equipment and more than 300 marijuana plants in three structures on the property while executing a search warrant. February 13, he admitted to transporting marijuana in his South Carolina Highway Patrol vehicle. He is facing 5 to 40 years imprisonment, and/or a fine of \$5 million to be followed by a minimum of 4 years supervised release.  
Source: [http://www.live5news.com/story/16924813/former-state-trooper-pleads-guilty-to-growing-300-marijuana-plants?hpt=ju\\_bn4](http://www.live5news.com/story/16924813/former-state-trooper-pleads-guilty-to-growing-300-marijuana-plants?hpt=ju_bn4)
34. *February 13, KRCR 7 Redding* – (California) **Ambulance rammer arrested for attempted murder.** Police said a man tried to kill three people in a Mercy Medical ambulance by ramming his truck into their vehicle February 11. Redding, California police were called to Mercy Medical Center, and when officers arrived, they found the truck crashed into the ambulance just outside the emergency room. Three medical emergency workers were inside the ambulance at the time of the crash. Police said the suspect intentionally drove his truck into the parked ambulance in an attempt to kill the people inside. The suspect was treated for minor injuries and booked into Shasta County Jail for attempted murder, his bail was set at \$1 million.  
Source: [http://www.krcrtv.com/news/30441649/detail.html?hpt=ju\\_bn6](http://www.krcrtv.com/news/30441649/detail.html?hpt=ju_bn6)

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## Information Technology Sector

35. *February 14, Help Net Security* – (International) **Twitter turns on HTTPS by default.** Twitter recently turned HTTPS on by default for all users. The option to always use HTTPS was made available to users in March 2011, but they had to turn it on for themselves by changing their account settings. Twitter’s very nature and the fact that many users are used to tweeting from unsecured Internet connections meant anyone equipped with the Firesheep Firefox add-on can easily steal their log-in credentials sent via unencrypted HTTP sessions.  
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=12396>
36. *February 14, Softpedia* – (International) **Horde FTP server hacked, files maliciously altered.** The developers of the popular open source Web mail solution Horde identified a number of manipulated files on an FTP server. They concluded the server was breached, the files stored on it being altered to allow unauthenticated remote PHP execution. “We have immediately taken down all distribution servers to further analyze the extent of this incident, and we have worked closely with various Linux distributions to coordinate our response,” Horde officials said. After the investigation was concluded, the servers were replaced and secured, and the altered files replaced with clean variants. The analysis found three files were manipulated and modified on different occasions, and served to unsuspecting customers for about 3 months. Horde 3.3.12 was manipulated November 15, 2011, Horde Groupware 1.2.10 November 9, 2011, and Horde Groupware Webmail Edition 1.2.10 November 2, 2011. Since the incident was found February 7, users who downloaded the files during this timeframe are advised to immediately reinstall using fresh copies from Horde’s FTP server, or upgrade to more recent versions that have been released since. Horde 4 releases were not affected and neither were the company’s CVSs and Git repositories. The affected Linux distributions will provide notifications and security updates of their own. Users who are uncertain if they are exposed to cybercriminal operations can manually verify whether or not their products were altered by searching for the \$m[1](\$m[2]) signature in the Horde directory tree.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Horde-FTP-Server-Hacked-Files-Maliciously-Altered-252708.shtml>
37. *February 13, Computerworld* – (International) **Google clamps down on its prepaid Google Wallet card on smartphones.** Google said it temporarily disabled the provisioning of its prepaid Google Wallet cards used in some NFC-ready phones. The move follows discovery of a vulnerability in Google Wallet described February 8 by security researchers at Zvelo.com. A second vulnerability for accessing Google Wallet prepaid card funds was outlined by The Smartphone Champ February 9. February 11, the vice president of Google Wallet and Payments said the step was taken as a “precaution until we issue a permanent fix soon.” The move was intended to address “unauthorized use of an existing prepaid card balance if someone recovered a lost phone without a screen lock.”  
Source:  
[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224211/Google\\_clamps\\_down\\_on\\_its\\_prepaid\\_Google\\_Wallet\\_card\\_on\\_smartphones?taxonomyId=17](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224211/Google_clamps_down_on_its_prepaid_Google_Wallet_card_on_smartphones?taxonomyId=17)

For another story, see item [29](#)

### **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**

38. *February 13, Kansas City Star* – (Kansas) **Copper thief pleads guilty to damaging utility.** A Kansas copper thief is looking at a possible 20 years in prison for pulling down power poles to get at the wiring, the Kansas City star reported February 13. His action also caused a southeastern Kansas radio station to go off the air for several hours. He was finally stopped by an armed property owner who caught him trying to steal a copper coupling from his propane tank, prosecutors said. He pleaded guilty February 13 to one count of damaging an energy facility. A second charge of obstructing the national Emergency Alert System by putting the radio station out of commission was dropped. The man stole copper wire September 7 by pulling down an electrical pole belonging to the Heartland Rural Electric Company. That caused a second pole also to fall. And that affected radio station KKOW in Pittsburg, Kansas, whose transmission tower was at the site.

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/2012/02/13/3427390/copper-thief-pleads-guilty-to.html>

For more stories, see items [36](#) and [37](#)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

39. *February 14, Ashbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **10 businesses, 14 apartments burn in Jersey shore fire.** Fire raged through the West End business district of Long Branch, New Jersey, February 13, destroying or damaging 10 businesses and 14 apartments before being brought under control. More than a dozen tenants were left homeless and brought to the Long Branch Senior Center, where they were aided by Red Cross officials. Many had been at work, but others had to be evacuated by firefighters. The cause of the multi-alarm fire was undetermined, and fire officials said they did not know in which building the fire started. The cause of the fire was being investigated by the Long Branch fire marshal.

Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20120214/NEWS/120214016/10-businesses-14-apartments-burn-Jersey-shore-fire?odyssey=nav|head>

40. *February 13, WTTG 5 Washington, D.C.* – (District of Columbia) **10 people hospitalized after carbon monoxide leak inside southeast D.C. condo building.** Dozens of residents of a condo complex in Washington, D.C., were staying elsewhere after a carbon monoxide leak in their building February 13. They were evacuated from the building after fire crews discovered carbon monoxide leaking from a basement furnace. Eighteen people were assessed for exposure, and 10 had to be transported to a hospital for treatment.  
Source: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/dpp/news/dc/10-people-hospitalized-after-carbon-monoxide-leak-inside-southeast-dc-condo-building-021312>
41. *February 13, KXAN 21 Austin* – (Texas) **7 hospitalized after NE Austin gas leak.** Seven people at the Canyon Villas in Austin, Texas, were hospitalized February 12 after what Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services (ATCEMS) said was carbon monoxide exposure. An ATCEMS spokesperson said the exposure was likely caused after a gas leak in the area. “Several people were complaining of headache, nausea and different odors in the building, odors of gas,” an official from ATCEMS said. “The fire department responded as well. Using sniffing type equipment they were able to determine there was high levels of carbon monoxide as well as natural gas,” he said. The ATCEMS official said people noticed the smell several days before but did not report it.  
Source: <http://www.kxan.com/dpp/news/local/austin/7-hospitalized-after-ne-austin-gas-leak>
42. *February 13, WMUR 9 Manchester* – (New Hampshire) **Explosion forces apartment building evacuation.** An explosion at an apartment in Manchester, New Hampshire, forced the evacuation of about 25 residents February 13. Authorities said an explosion in a boiler of one of the apartments blew a door off the laundry room area and damaged a wall adjacent to another apartment. Three people were home at the time, but there were no injuries. Officials said there was a smell of gas throughout the building and everyone was evacuated to a local community center.  
Source: <http://www.wmur.com/newsarchive/30446077/detail.html>
43. *February 13, Salinas Californian* – (California) **Chlorine gas sends dozens to Monterey County hospitals.** More than 200 guests were evacuated from the Portola Plaza Hotel in Monterey, California, February 13 and about 30 people were taken to hospitals after the mixing of cleaning chemicals spilled and released a type of chlorine gas, authorities and a hotel employee said. The incident prompted a HAZMAT response, sending HAZMAT teams from Salinas and Seaside to assist the Monterey Fire Department. The incident was caused when employees in housekeeping mixed acid and bleach in a barrel in the hotel’s basement, a hotel employee said. Initially, 16 hotel employees and 1 guest were transported to a hospital. Roughly a half-dozen city of Monterey employees were evacuated from an adjacent conference center, a city spokeswoman said. The hotel was expected to re-open late February 13.  
Source:  
<http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20120214/NEWS01/202140303/Chlorine-gas-sends-some-Monterey-County-hospitals>



For more stories, see items [3](#), [7](#), and [29](#)

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## National Monuments and Icons Sector

44. *February 13, U.S. Department of Justice* – (California) **Lamont man pleads guilty to assisting in marijuana grow on public land.** A U.S. district attorney announced February 13 that a man in Kern County, California, pleaded guilty to facilitating a large marijuana cultivation operation on public land through the use of his telephone. According to court documents and the guilty plea, a California Fish and Game warden found the man October 2011 about 2 miles from a marijuana cultivation site in the Sentinel Peak area of the Sequoia National Forest. He had been assisting in a grow operation disrupted by federal, state and local law enforcement officers. As a result of the enforcement action at the grow site, law enforcement agents found more than 16,205 marijuana plants, more than 850 pounds of processed marijuana, and three firearms, including an assault rifle. Native vegetation was cut to make room for the marijuana plants. Trash and fertilizer containers were scattered throughout the site, including in a stream. The man has agreed to pay \$3,686.54 in restitution to the U.S. Forest Service for the clean-up cost and for the natural resources damaged by the illicit cultivation operation. Eight other defendants were charged.

Source: [http://www.bakersfield.com/blogs/breaking\\_news/x238701826/Lamont-man-pleads-guilty-to-assisting-in-marijuana-grow-on-public-land](http://www.bakersfield.com/blogs/breaking_news/x238701826/Lamont-man-pleads-guilty-to-assisting-in-marijuana-grow-on-public-land)

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## Dams Sector

45. *February 14, Worcester Telegram & Gazette* – (Massachusetts) **State official urges removal of old Lancaster dam.** Lancaster, Massachusetts' Bartlett dam is estimated to be 200 years old and in poor condition, and is classified as a significant hazard to public safety. At a February 13 public hearing on the dam, the town engineer said that to bring the dam into compliance with state rules, a complete reconstruction is necessary and nothing can be salvaged of the concrete and earthen structure. The project manager and restoration specialist for the department of fish and game said his agency supports removal of the dam and restoring Wekepeke Brook. The Nashua River Watershed Association recommended consideration of "the ecological benefits and new recreational opportunities of a free-flowing Wekepeke Brook." Selectmen plan to bring the question of removal or reconstruction of the dam to the annual town meeting in May, and are holding public hearings on the issue. "The Office of Dam Safety has given us until December 2013 or we will be facing huge fines from the state," said one selectman.

Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20120214/NEWS/102149983/1101/local>

46. *February 13, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Corps will spend \$1.8M on Omaha flood repairs.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is planning to spend \$1.8 million to repair the flood-defense network around Omaha, Nebraska. The repairs being made

around Omaha are part of the work being done along the Missouri River to prepare for spring. The historic flooding in 2011 along the river damaged many of the levees and drainage ditches and other structures along the river. The Corps said this \$1.8 million contract will repair several of the drainage structures around the city and Eppley Airfield. The contractor will also inspect Omaha's flood wall to determine what other repairs are needed.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-ne-omahafloodrepairs,0,514224.story>

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