



Homeland  
Security

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

## 9 March 2012

### Top Stories

- Residents from about 10 homes were evacuated for about 5 hours after a train derailment in Abbeville, South Carolina, March 8 that resulted in chemicals leaking from some railcars. – *Associated Press* (See item [7](#))
- An expert panel recommended the United States customize emergency plans for each of the nation's 65 nuclear power plants. The change would expand the standard 10-mile evacuation zone that has been in place for more than 3 decades. – *Associated Press* (See item [10](#))
- At least five people were shot, including a police officer, in the lobby of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh March 8, and officers were searching for a possible second shooter. Officers found one suspect dead. – *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* (See item [28](#))
- A man was arrested March 7 after he opened fire outside the Tulsa County Courthouse in Tulsa, Oklahoma, wounding a deputy and a bystander before being wounded himself. – *MSNBC; Associated Press* (See item [30](#))
- Police investigating a marijuana scent at a Long Island, New York home found an arsenal of guns, grenades, and bomb-making material that would have been enough to blow up an entire block. – *NBC New York; Associated Press* (See item [53](#))

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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. *March 8, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **California rejects tainted BP gasoline from Washington state.** Tens of millions of gallons of gasoline that did not meet California’s clean fuel specifications were delivered to the city of Martinez and sold across the state by BP, state regulators said in a lawsuit filed March 7. The company submitted documents over a 4-month period to regulators that said gasoline refined in Washington and shipped to Contra Costa County contained permissible levels of toxic and cancer-causing compounds, including benzene, when in fact the fuel failed to meet state standards, the lawsuit says. A spokesman for the California Air Resources Board said it was not clear whether the company simply made errors or deliberately misled regulators, but BP is a “repeat offender” that has been fined by the board more than 30 times for clean-fuel violations over the last 10 years. In all, about 85 million gallons of dirty gasoline was sold by BP through storage tanks and pipelines along the Martinez shore, the air board said. That is enough fuel to run 170,000 cars for a year, according to the spokesman. The lawsuit, which was filed in Contra Costa Superior Court, seeks unspecified damages.  
Source: <http://www.heraldnet.com/article/20120308/NEWS02/703089908>
2. *March 8, Erie Times-News* – (Pennsylvania) **Cable failure in network system cause of explosions, power outages in downtown Erie.** A cable failure in a network system that provides electric service to customers in downtown Erie, Pennsylvania, set off a series of explosions March 7, a Penelec spokesman said. The explosions occurred in an underground conduit. Three manhole covers were blown off and a large transformer box was damaged in West Perry Square. Erie police and firefighters blocked off West Perry Square and surrounding areas to keep vehicles and pedestrians out for safety reasons. Firefighters also checked area buildings, including the Erie County

Courthouse, the Erie fire chief said.

Source: <http://www.goerie.com/article/20120308/NEWS02/303089900/Police:-Erie-streets-reopened-after-underground-blasts-near-Perry-Square>  
<http://www.goerie.com/article/20120308/NEWS02/303089900/Police:-Erie-streets-reopened-after-underground-blasts-near-Perry-Squ-###>

3. *March 7, Corpus Christi Caller-Times* – (Texas) **Chemical Safety Board investigates Citgo hydrofluoric acid leak.** A 7-member team from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board arrived to investigate a chemical leak at the Citgo East Refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times reported March 7. An apparent flange leak at the plant's alkylation unit March 5 released propane, butane, pentane, and hydrofluoric acid. The leak triggered the plant's automatic water cannons, which spouted a curtain of water to contain the leak, a plant spokesman said. In December 2009, the board recommended Citgo immediately improve emergency water mitigation systems in case of another release of hydrogen fluoride, and perform third-party audits to ensure the safety of its units. Citgo met those requirements in 2011. An alkylation unit creates high-octane products for gasoline.

Source: <http://www.caller.com/news/2012/mar/07/chemical-safety-board-investigates-citgo-hydroflu/>

4. *March 7, WPLG 10 Miami* – (Florida) **Man steals fuel at Miami International Airport.** A tanker truck driver was accused of stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of fuel while working out of Miami International Airport in Miami, WPLG 10 Miami reported March 7. After an internal audit, Swissport U.S.A. Inc. told Miami-Dade police it discovered large fuel discrepancies. It said the discrepancies happened while the suspect was working at Swissport U.S.A. Inc. March 4, detectives said the suspect arrived at the airport an hour early for work and filled up his tanker. Detectives said the suspect then drove to World Fueling Inc. on Northwest 34th Street and met up with another man. Detectives said they witnessed hoses being attached from the Swissport tanker to a World Fueling tanker. The suspect headed back to the airport in the Swissport tanker. After investigating, Miami-Dade police said the suspect stole about 194,615 gallons of fuel over 245 days. That gas is worth about \$205,000. The suspect is charged with more than 50 counts of grand theft.

Source: <http://www.local10.com/news/Man-steals-fuel-at-Miami-International-Airport/-/1717324/9240164/-/10v91b3z/-/>

5. *March 7, WSAZ 3 Huntington* – (West Virginia) **Thieves target coal mine; reward offered for information.** Thieves stole \$20,000 worth of equipment from a coal mine in Boone County, West Virginia, March 7; a problem authorities claim is becoming common in the area. Miners are frequently being prevented from working because of stolen equipment. State police said thieves are finding their way around security, stealing equipment and then selling it for bargain prices. It is an effort that troopers believe is leading to more illegal activity. The investigation into the recent theft is ongoing.

Source:

[http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Thieves\\_Target\\_Coal\\_Mine\\_Reward\\_Offered\\_for\\_Information\\_141817753.html](http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Thieves_Target_Coal_Mine_Reward_Offered_for_Information_141817753.html)

6. *March 6, Dow Jones* – (Tennessee) **Valero: Memphis refinery fire not expected to extend turnaround.** Valero Energy Corp. said a fire March 6 at its Memphis, Tennessee oil refinery was not expected to extend the planned duration of turnaround maintenance under way at the plant's crude unit. A flash fire on a flare platform injured three contract workers doing work on the flare as part of the crude unit turnaround at the plant. The workers, employed by JV Industrial, were transported to a local hospital. A report on the Memphis Commercial-Appeal Web site said two of the three injured had suffered burns over 90 percent of their bodies. The crude unit turnaround was under way March 2 and is expected to conclude April 6. The Memphis refinery is able to process up to 195,000 barrels of crude oil a day.  
Source: <http://www.nasdaq.com/article/valero-memphis-refinery-fire-not-expected-to-extend-turnaround-20120306-01673>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

7. *March 8, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Train carrying methanol derails in Abbeville.** Residents were being allowed to return home after a train derailment in Abbeville, South Carolina, March 8 resulted in chemicals leaking from some railcars, and prompted the evacuation of a half-mile area. A car carrying propanediol leaked after the crash that saw two dozen cars of the CSX train go off the tracks. The thick liquid is used in laminates and coatings, but is not a risk to the public, a local fire chief said. Another car was carrying methanol, which can be dangerous, but a CSX spokesman said there was no indication it leaked. HAZMAT crews were working to contain the leak, which the fire chief said could contaminate waterways if it reached a stream. About 10 homes were evacuated, said an emergency preparedness official. The fire chief noted that the first engine arriving at the scene backed out when firefighters' eyes started burning. The train was headed from Atlanta to Hamlet, North Carolina, the CSX spokesman said.  
Source: [http://thetandd.com/news/local/state-and-regional/train-carrying-methanol-derails-in-abbeville/article\\_9332a6f8-692b-11e1-b718-0019bb2963f4.html](http://thetandd.com/news/local/state-and-regional/train-carrying-methanol-derails-in-abbeville/article_9332a6f8-692b-11e1-b718-0019bb2963f4.html)
8. *March 7, KCAU 9 Sioux City* – (Iowa) **Chemical spill closes highway near Newell, IA.** The rollover of a tractor-trailer hauling various chemical products closed part of Highway 7 east of Newell, Iowa, March 7. At least four emergency response agencies were on scene. The accident threw at least three chemicals from the vehicle, causing the containers to leak or rupture. They include three 55-gallon drums of phosphoric acid, three to five 275-gallon plastic containers of sodium and potassium hydroxide mix, and one 55-gallon drum of chlorine bleach. The chemicals did not appear to have impacted state waters, said one environmental official. Clean-up of the morning crash of the truck owned by Packers Logistics out of Kieler, Wisconsin, was slated to begin in late afternoon. The highway was expected to remain closed until cleanup was completed. The state department of natural resources said it would monitor cleanup of contaminated soil March 8.

Source: <http://www.kcautv.com/story/17104849/chemical-spill-closes-highway-near-newell-ia>

9. *March 7, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **Jefferson County pyrotechnics plant fire injures three workers.** A fire inside a tiny concrete building injured three men March 7 as they assembled fireworks at a Jefferson County, Missouri pyrotechnics company. One of the men suffered severe burns and was taken by medical helicopter to a hospital. Two other employees were treated at another hospital and released. The fire occurred at Global Pyrotechnic Solutions. A statement from the company president said raw materials used to manufacture a component of one of the products ignited, causing a “flash-over fire” that workers immediately extinguished. She said investigators with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will lead the probe. The chief of the Cedar Hill Fire Protection District said the fire was contained to a 15-foot square building made of concrete and wood. It is one of several buildings on the property.

Source: [http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/pyrotechnics-firm-fire-injures-three-workers/article\\_05924ff4-35ca-5f7a-aabc-d5ea66a02098.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/pyrotechnics-firm-fire-injures-three-workers/article_05924ff4-35ca-5f7a-aabc-d5ea66a02098.html)

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

10. *March 8, Associated Press* – (National) **Expert panel: 10-mile evacuation zone may not be adequate for some nuclear power plants.** The United States should customize emergency plans for each of the nation’s 65 nuclear power plants, a change that in some cases could expand the standard 10-mile evacuation zone in place for more than 3 decades, an expert panel recommended in a report that was to be released March 9. That’s one of the lessons to emerge in a 40-page report set to be released 3 days before the 1-year anniversary of Japan’s nuclear disaster from a committee that examined the incident for the American Nuclear Society. The panel included a former chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a fellow at a Department of Energy laboratory, and seven other nuclear scientists. The report concluded U.S. nuclear power oversight is adequate to protect public health and safety but that emergency zones “should not be based on arbitrary mileage designations.” Under rules in force since 1978, communities near nuclear plants must prepare federally reviewed evacuation plans for those living within 10 miles of the facility.

Source: <http://www.duluthnewtribune.com/event/apArticle/id/D9TC7HM80/>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

11. *March 7, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **U.S. Labor Department’s OSHA cites Baytown, Texas-based JSW Steel for safety and health hazards; proposed penalties total more than \$469,000.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) March 7 cited JSW Steel (USA) Inc. with 11 repeat, 23 serious, and two other-than-serious violations for exposing employees to

safety and health hazards at the company's facility in Baytown, Texas. Proposed penalties total \$469,420. OSHA's Houston South Area Office initiated a safety inspection as a result of several employee complaints, while concurrently conducting a site-specific target inspection. The OSHA has placed JSW Steel in its Severe Violator Enforcement Program, which mandates targeted follow-up inspections to ensure compliance with the law.

Source:

[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=21939](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21939)

12. *March 7, Reuters* – (National) **Toyota recalls over 681,000 vehicles in U.S.** Toyota Motor Corp announced March 7 the recall of more than 681,000 cars and trucks in the U.S. market to address potential problems. The Japanese automaker said it will recall about 495,000 Tacoma pickup trucks from model years 2005 to 2009 to replace a part in the steering wheel. Toyota will replace the steering wheel spiral cable assembly because friction may occur over time involving that part, which may result in the driver's side airbag being deactivated and not deploying in an accident. It is also recalling about 70,500 Camry mid-sized cars and 116,000 Venza crossover vehicles from model years 2009 to 2011 to replace a stop lamp switch. Silicon grease during assembly may lead to increased electrical resistance that can cause the vehicle not to start or the shift lever not to move from the "park" position, Toyota said.  
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/46657176/ns/business-autos/#.T1jSankhjUS>
13. *March 6, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Ohio) **U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA cites Falls Stamping and Welding in Cleveland for workplace violations; proposed penalties exceed \$124,000.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) March 6 cited Falls Stamping and Welding Co. with a total of 19 safety and health violations. The OSHA began an inspection after receiving a complaint alleging a failure to lock out and tag out machinery energy sources at the company's Cleveland metal stamping facility, which exposed workers to amputation hazards. The willful violation has been cited for failing to ensure workers who lock out machinery, such as mechanical power presses, were trained in lockout and tagout procedures. Due to the willful and repeat violations and the nature of the hazards, the OSHA placed Falls Stamping and Welding Co. in its Severe Violator Enforcement Program, which mandates targeted follow-up inspections to ensure compliance.  
Source:  
[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=21933](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21933)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

14. *March 8, Defense News* – (International) **U.S. Export Enforcement Coordination Center opens.** The U.S. Presidential administration has opened a new Export Enforcement Coordination Center (E2C2), one of four steps in its export control reform agenda, Defense News reported March 8. DHS will administer the new center. It has a

leadership team that includes officials from DHS, the FBI, and the Commerce Department. The plan is to increase information sharing and coordination between law enforcement and intelligence officials to better track and prosecute violations of U.S. export controls laws. The center, which will eventually have 30 individuals working for it, officially opened March 7. Participating organizations include DHS, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the departments of Justice, Commerce, State, Treasury, Defense, and Energy. There will also be representation from agencies including the FBI, the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Defense Criminal Investigative Service, the National Nuclear Security Administration, and the Defense Security Service. The administration has also created the Information Triage Unit (ITU), which will be housed within Commerce. Another multiagency organization, the ITU was established to collect information and intelligence from across the government to help licensing agencies make more informed decisions, a senior government official said.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/article/20120308/DEFREG02/303080001/U-S-Export-Enforcement-Coordination-Center-Opens?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

For another story, see item [40](#)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

15. *March 8, Associated Press* – (Texas; International) **Jury deciding if feds can seize \$330 million from accounts of convicted fraudster.** A Houston jury was to begin deciding March 8 if federal authorities can seize \$330 million from nearly 30 accounts controlled by a convicted Texas tycoon and others. Prosecutors allege the funds are proceeds from a massive Ponzi scheme and can be traced back to investors who lost billions. They are part of a brief criminal forfeiture proceeding that ended March 7. It followed the tycoon's conviction March 6 by the same jury on 13 of 14 fraud-related counts for orchestrating a scheme that took more than \$7 billion over 20 years from investors.  
Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/jury-deciding-if-330-million-in-accounts-of-convicted-fraudster-stanford-can-be-seized/2012/03/08/gIQAIYnYyR\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/jury-deciding-if-330-million-in-accounts-of-convicted-fraudster-stanford-can-be-seized/2012/03/08/gIQAIYnYyR_story.html)
16. *March 7, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah; Colorado; National) **Utahns among six sanctioned over Ponzi scheme.** Federal regulators imposed sanctions on six Utah and Colorado men for their involvement with a Utah County man who pleaded guilty to fraud charges for running a Ponzi scheme that took in about \$18 million from investors on promises of returns of 2 percent or more a month, the Salt Lake Tribune reported March 7. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) said the six solicited millions of dollars of investor money that went to the Ponzi schemer using false claims about where the money would go and about the security of the investments. In recent administrative actions, the SEC barred the six from participating in investment sales, services, and promotions, including penny stocks. In a 2009 lawsuit, the SEC said the 6

had raised about \$41 million from 150 investors in various states. Of that, about \$18 million went to the Ponzi schemer, who used about half of it to make interest payments to initial investors so it appeared his operation was profitable. The schemer, who is serving a 10-year prison sentence, misappropriated another \$8 million for personal use, including buying a large collection of luxury and antique motor vehicles, with another \$650,000 going to his then-wife.

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/money/53660507-79/mowen-font-sec-six.html.csp>

17. *March 7, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **FDIC sues former officers of Broadway Bank.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) filed a \$104 million lawsuit March 7 in connection with the April 2010 failure of Chicago-based Broadway Bank. Among those named was the bank's former president. The FDIC alleges gross negligence, negligence, and breaches of fiduciary duty by seven former directors and two former officers who approved loans that sank the fast-growing bank. The regulator is seeking to recover \$104 million in losses from 17 bad loans. The suit said the defendants approved two of the worst loans June 24, 2008 — immediately after bank regulators ordered Broadway to improve its lending operations. The two loans resulted in a combined loss to the bank of \$12 million. Underwriting was perfunctory or non-existent, and loans were made without proper appraisals and sometimes to borrowers who had already stiffed the bank, the suit said. The \$1.06 billion-asset bank failed in April 2010. The estimated loss to the insurance fund is \$391.4 million.

Source: [http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-03-07/business/ct-biz-0308-broadway-bank-20120307\\_1\\_broadway-bank-giannoulis-family-alexi-giannoulis](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-03-07/business/ct-biz-0308-broadway-bank-20120307_1_broadway-bank-giannoulis-family-alexi-giannoulis)

18. *March 7, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (National) **SEC charges CEO of Las Vegas-based penny stock company and several consultants in pump-and-dump scheme.** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) charged a Las Vegas-based food and beverage company and its chief executive officer (CEO) March 7 with conducting a fraudulent pump-and-dump scheme and charged several consultants for their illegal sales of company shares into the markets. The SEC alleges Prime Star Group Inc. under the direction of its CEO issued false and misleading press releases that touted lucrative agreements for the company's products. Furthermore, certain Prime Star reports filed with the SEC understated the company's net losses or overstated its cash balance. The SEC suspended trading in Prime Star in June 2011 due to questions about the adequacy and accuracy of information about the company. "Prime Star and [its CEO] used backdated consulting agreements and forged attorney opinion letters as a means to issue millions of shares to the consultants who then dumped them on unsuspecting investors," the director of the SEC's Miami Regional Office said. The SEC alleges the CEO and Prime Star's fraudulent promotional activities caused Prime Star's stock price and trading volume to increase markedly. For instance, March 16, a prior day press release caused trading volume to spike to more than 16 million shares, which was 10 times more than the previous day's trading volume. Prime Star's stock price plummeted the following day.

Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-39.htm>

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## Transportation Sector

19. *March 8, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Water main break causes traffic snarl on Nimitz Highway.** A 16-inch pipe, World War II-era water main ruptured March 6 evening and backed up Ewa-bound traffic for miles March 7 on Nimitz Highway in Honolulu, Hawaii. For much of the day, traffic on was stop-and-go as all three westbound lanes were closed to traffic. A board of water Supply spokesman for Hawaii said repairs were expected to last through March 8.  
Source: <http://www.kitv.com/r/30633090/detail.html>
  
20. *March 8, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Fuel leak causes AirTran flight to be diverted.** Officials said a fuel leak caused an AirTran Airways flight to be diverted to Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport in Kenner, Louisiana, without incident after March 7. A Southwest Airlines spokesman said Houston-bound Flight 295 left Atlanta and landed in Kenner after the pilot saw that he was low on fuel. A fuel leak was found in one of the engines of the Boeing 717, which was carrying 74 passengers and 5 crewmembers. There was no fire from the leak and passengers transferred to another plane that arrived at Houston Hobby Airport.  
Source: <http://travel.usatoday.com/flights/story/2012-03-08/Fuel-leak-causes-AirTran-flight-to-be-diverted/53413040/1>
  
21. *March 8, Associated Press* – (California) **Amtrak says engineer hurt when train hits trailer.** An Amtrak train carrying 84 passengers crashed into a truck hauling 45,000 pounds of potassium chloride at a rural rail crossing in Tulare County, California, March 7, sending the engineer to a hospital and knocking the train out of commission, officials said. The collision sent the non-toxic granular cargo of the truck onto the road, and its cleanup prevented the road from reopening for about 3 hours, said a Tulare County fire captain. The crash occurred when the northbound train hit the trailer that was “obstructing” the railroad tracks, said an Amtrak spokesman. The engineer was taken to a hospital for possible back injuries. The fire captain said two people were treated at the scene for undisclosed injuries. The train had been traveling 60 mph and went another 900 feet before it could stop, the Fresno Bee reported. The Amtrak spokesman said just the train engine and truck were damaged. The passengers were transported by bus to another train.  
Source: [http://wfcourier.com/news/national/amtrak-says-engineer-hurt-when-train-hits-trailer/article\\_05946656-9d03-5e73-bcc6-edca01f0c828.html](http://wfcourier.com/news/national/amtrak-says-engineer-hurt-when-train-hits-trailer/article_05946656-9d03-5e73-bcc6-edca01f0c828.html)

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## Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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## Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *March 8, Associated Press* – (New York) **Norovirus blamed for sickening 95 at NY restaurant.** Health officials said lab tests confirmed norovirus is to blame for sickening dozens of people who ate at a Syracuse, New York restaurant in February. The Onondaga County Health Department said the number of people who reported getting sick after eating at the Twin Trees Too restaurant had risen to 95 as of March 7. They suffered food poisoning after dining at the restaurant the weekend of February 25. The total includes seven restaurant employees. The restaurant reopened March 7 after undergoing a thorough cleaning.  
Source: <http://www.wtov9.com/news/ap/health/norovirus-blamed-for-sickening-95-at-ny-restaurant/nLNj5/>
23. *March 7, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **Gas spills at False Pass seafood processing plant.** Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) officials are monitoring a 3,468-gallon spill of unleaded gasoline at the Peter Pan Seafoods plant in False Pass, Alaska. The DEC said in a situation report the plant manager discovered the spill March 4 and reported it March 5. The gas was lost from a tank that holds 30,610 gallons and DEC officials said it probably leaked from the bottom. The gas in the tank was estimated at 12,325 gallons at the end of January. The DEC said spilled gas went into a lined containment area. Peter Pan response workers as of March 5 had transferred 2,100 gallons of gas from the tank into barrels and had another 100 barrels available.  
Source: <http://newsminer.com/bookmark/17781216-Gas-spills-at-False-Pass-seafood-processing-plant-#ixzz1oXbXKaYr>
24. *March 6, Food Safety News* – (California) **Imported candies with too much lead.** Three candies are being recalled after tests conducted by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) found they exceed California standards for lead, Food Safety News reported March 6. The recalled candies are: Chef's Pride Rewadi Candy imported from Pakistan; Shah's Deer Brand Revdi (Sesame Candy) imported from India; and Shah's Deer Brand Revdi (Gud) (Sesame Candy) imported from India. Chef's Pride Rewadi Candy was distributed by R&R Importers in Montclair, California. The two Shah's Deer Brand candies were distributed by Shah Distributors in Gardena, California. Recent chemical analysis by CDPH showed Chef's Pride Rewadi Candy, Shah's Deer Brand Revdi (Sesame Candy), and Shah's Deer Brand Revdi (Gud) (Sesame Candy) contained as much as 0.12, 0.40, and 0.35 parts per million of lead, respectively. California considers candies with lead levels in excess of 0.10 parts per million to be contaminated.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/03/california-recall-for-candies-with-too-much-lead/>

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## Water Sector

25. *March 8, Vernon Patch* – (Connecticut) **Talcottville Road pumping station to get emergency repairs.** Talcottville, Connecticut officials approved emergency repairs to

the town's pumping station force main March 6, waiving the bid process for the \$64,000 project. The funds will be taken out of the Sewer Connection Account. Water Pollution Control Authority Met January 26 and drafted a recommendation to repair the pumping station and construct a permanent bypass. "The repair to the station's 16-inch diameter force main is a crucial need since it is under pressure and is over a mile long. It is in danger of an imminent failure," the water pollution control director said in a memo to the council dated February 17.

Source: <http://vernon.patch.com/articles/talcottville-pumping-station-to-get-emergency-repairs>

26. *March 8, Charleston Gazette* – (West Virginia) **Boone customers get second boil-water advisory this week.** West Virginia American Water issued a second precautionary boil water advisory March 8 for about 300 customers in the communities of Bim, Pondco, Barrett, Wharton, and Clinton in Boone County. The advisory follows a water main break, which drained a nearby water storage tank, according to West Virginia American Water. In the original boil-water advisory, issued March 5, the company said a power outage to a booster station caused a water storage tank to drain. That initial advisory was lifted March 6.  
Source: <http://sundaygazette.com/News/201203080060>
27. *March 8, Associated Press* – (Hawaii) **Hawaii gov. declares disaster for Kauai, Oahu as flooding, sewage spills follow 3 days of rain.** Hawaii's governor declared a disaster for two islands March 6 after three days of relentless rains caused flooding and a sewage spill on Kauai, where officials were dealing with tree-blocked roads, closed schools, and dangerous surf. A brown water advisory was issued on the island after two manholes overflowed and wastewater flowed into the ocean. There were also warnings of possible hail, lightning, rockslides, and water-clogged roads. Kauai schools were closed March 6. A middle school was functioning as an emergency shelter, where 33 people spent the night March 5. The Hawaii chapter of the Red Cross said more than 50 others spent the night at three other shelters. State workers in Honolulu March 6 continued to remove floating trash from the debris trap at the entrance to the Ala Wai small boat harbor. Cleanup began March 5 after rain washed large amounts of trash into the Ala Wai canal. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood watch for Kauai, Niihau, and Oahu, as well as the islands of Lanai, Maui, and Molokai. A high surf warning was also in effect for the east shores of most islands in the archipelago. Forecasters said showers were likely for March 7 with wind gusts as high as 24 mph.  
Source: <http://www.mcall.com/news/nationworld/sns-ap-us-hawaii-wet-weather,0,6388518.story>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

28. *March 8, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Several people, including officer, shot at Western Psych; one suspect dead.** At least five people were shot,

including a police officer, in the lobby of Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic in Pittsburgh, March 8, and officers were searching for a possible second shooter. Officers found one suspect dead. Police evacuated people from Western Psychiatric and took them to Scaife Hall across the street. Police said the officer was hit in the leg and taken next-door to a hospital. A police union official said the officer works for the University of Pittsburgh. Authorities did not disclose the conditions of any other victims. Police closed down nearby DeSoto Street with more than 20 cruisers and a SWAT vehicle while officers yelled at people to stay inside surrounding buildings. Western Psych was in complete lockdown, a spokeswoman said. The neighboring University of Pittsburgh sent out an automatic e-mail alert indicating an active shooter. Five neighboring K-12 schools were ordered to go on lockdown.

Source:

[http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s\\_785529.html?\\_s\\_icmp=NetworkHeadlines](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/s_785529.html?_s_icmp=NetworkHeadlines)

29. *March 7, Fox News* – (National) **CDC: ‘Superbug’ transmitted outside hospitals.** Many patients infected by the deadly superbug *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*), long thought to be contracted mainly during hospital stays, are already exposed when they are admitted to the hospital, U.S. infectious disease experts said March 6. Rates of *C. difficile*, the most common hospital-based infection in the United States, continue to climb. A new study from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found half of the cases of *C. difficile* reported by hospitals were present at the time a patient was admitted or within the first 3 days of admission, suggesting they were already infected when they entered the hospital. *C. difficile* is linked to more than 14,000 U.S. deaths each year, according to the CDC. The infections just in hospitals add an extra \$1 billion a year in health system costs. While *C. difficile* has long been thought to be a hospital problem, the new CDC report suggests patients can be exposed to *C. difficile* in many healthcare settings. Hospital stays involving *C. difficile* infections as the primary diagnosis more than tripled between 2000 and 2009, fueled in part by more deadly strains of the drug-resistant bacteria.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/03/07/cdc-superbug-transmitted-outside-hospitals/>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

30. *March 8, MSNBC; Associated Press* – (Oklahoma) **Dramatic shootout outside Tulsa courthouse.** A man was arrested March 7 after he opened fire outside the Tulsa County Courthouse in Tulsa, Oklahoma, wounding a deputy and a bystander before being wounded himself, police said. The gunman was in critical condition after being shot by police. Police said the man walked into the plaza outside the courthouse and Tulsa City-County Library and began firing into the air. He then sat on a cement bench at the plaza, according to KJRH 2 Tulsa. Three deputies reportedly arrived moments later and exchanged fire with the suspect. One deputy was shot in the hand. The deputy is in

serious condition with non-life-threatening injuries. Deputies fired five rounds at the suspect, striking him in the face and body. He was taken into surgery and was in critical condition as of March 7. It is not clear if a bullet from the gunman or from police struck the bystander, who is in fair condition. A police spokesman said the suspect was considered to be in police custody, but had not been formally charged. The courthouse was set to be open as usual March 8. The Tulsa World reported that a wedding ceremony had just taken place in the plaza when the gunfire erupted.

Source: [http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2012/03/08/10608473-dramatic-shootout-outside-tulsa-courthouse](http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/03/08/10608473-dramatic-shootout-outside-tulsa-courthouse)

31. *March 7, Hartford Courant* – (Connecticut) **Security breach at CCSU includes not only social security numbers, but names.** A security breach in a computer at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, Connecticut, exposed not only the Social Security numbers of thousands of students, alumni, and current and former employees but also their names. The spokesman for the university said March 7 university officials thought at first only the 18,275 Social Security numbers were exposed to potential risk and misuse, with no link to names. However, they learned the week of February 27 the breach also included an undetermined number of names.

Source: [http://articles.courant.com/2012-03-07/news/hc-central-security-breach-0308-20120307\\_1\\_security-breach-social-security-numbers-university-officials](http://articles.courant.com/2012-03-07/news/hc-central-security-breach-0308-20120307_1_security-breach-social-security-numbers-university-officials)

32. *March 6, Fox News* – (Massachusetts) **2 arrested after allegedly plotting shooting at former high school over Facebook.** Two Massachusetts men were arrested March 5 after allegedly discussing on Facebook how they would carry out a Columbine-style shooting at their former high school, Fox News reported. Both were arrested following an investigation by police and school officials. Both face charges of threatened use of a dangerous weapon at Attleboro High School in Attleboro, Massachusetts. According to police, a current student at the high school saw the alleged discussion between the two men on Facebook and contacted school officials, who immediately notified police. The alleged discussion took place on the individual Facebook pages of the former students. A specific target was not mentioned in the discussions, and school officials do not believe that anyone at the school was in imminent danger.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2012/03/06/2-arrested-after-allegedly-plotting-shooting-at-former-high-school-over/>

For more stories, see items [27](#), [28](#), and [40](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

33. *March 8, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Fire truck hits car in Glen Burnie, injuring four firefighters and three civilians.** Four firefighters and three civilians were injured March 7 when a fire truck responding to a fire slammed into a car, officials in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, said. The crash took place in Glen Burnie. The rescue unit was headed to help fight a fire at a senior living facility. The firefighters were about 3 miles away from the site of the fire when the accident occurred. All seven people

involved in the crash sustained minor injuries and were transported to area hospitals for treatment, according to officials. The fire caused no fatalities, although one man had to be rescued from the multi-story building, officials said. He was taken to a burn center for treatment.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/fire-truck-hits-car-in-glen-burnie-injuring-four-firefighters-and-three-civilians/2012/03/08/gIQAZWxoyR\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/crime-scene/post/fire-truck-hits-car-in-glen-burnie-injuring-four-firefighters-and-three-civilians/2012/03/08/gIQAZWxoyR_blog.html)

34. *March 8, WPXI 11 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **Armored truck slaying suspect stashed \$20K at grandmother’s grave.** Police said they found some of the money that a Pittsburgh armored car guard allegedly stole, but the suspect is still at large, WPIX 11 Pittsburgh reported March 8. The suspect is accused of shooting his partner in the back of the head inside a Garda Cash Logistics truck the week of February 27 and making off with \$2.3 million. Investigators said they found \$20,000 hidden at his grandmother’s gravesite. WPXI reported another \$200,000 was found at his home where he lived with his parents.

Source: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/news/local/police-confirm-some-money-armored-car-robbery-loc/nLNKY/>

35. *March 7, Omaha World-Herald* – (Nebraska) **Firefighter triggered station lockdown.** Concerns related to a firefighter triggered a lockdown March 6 of all Omaha, Nebraska fire stations. Authorities said the roughly 6-hour lockdown was due to a personnel matter. Security personnel at the City County Building in downtown Omaha were alerted to the situation March 6, said the Douglas County chief deputy. His office was not investigating and did not arrest anyone in connection with the alert, he said. During the time of the lockdown, the fire station overhead garage doors remained closed and all external doors were locked, a spokesman with the fire department said. Fire units still responded to emergency calls, and the public could access fire stations by ringing front door bells at fire houses.

Source: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20120307/NEWS01/703079833>

36. *March 7, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pa. police officer stole, sold department guns.** Authorities said a southeastern Pennsylvania police officer stole two guns from his department and sold them, the Associated Press reported March 7. The Delaware County District Attorney’s office said the officer swiped two rifles from the Darby Township police department and sold them for a combined \$1,100. Authorities put the value of the guns at \$2,000 each. Prosecutors said one of his fellow officers noticed his rifle missing on March 3. Police soon discovered a second rifle was missing. Investigators said he admitted the thefts under questioning. He faces charges of theft, receiving stolen property, and making false reports. His bail was set at \$100,000 unsecured.

Source: [http://www.ydr.com/crime/ci\\_20117719/da-pa-police-officer-stole-sold-department-guns](http://www.ydr.com/crime/ci_20117719/da-pa-police-officer-stole-sold-department-guns)

37. *March 7, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **3 teens caught after escaping from detention center.** Three teenagers who escaped from a juvenile detention center in Bellefontaine, Ohio, were found — two in Cincinnati and one in Columbus, WCMH 4 Columbus

reported March 7. The Logan County Sheriff's office said they could now face charges of assault, felonious assault, escape, and aggravated rioting. March 6, three juvenile detainees allegedly attacked two correction officers before escaping the Logan County Juvenile Detention Center. Apparently, the teens overpowered the officers during recreation time. The Logan County sheriff said the teens escaped after an assault that began in an elevator. He said the boys took a radio from one of the officers during the attack and pulled a fire alarm, which is designed to open doors in the event of a fire. They became trapped in a fire-escape stairwell for a moment before the locked doors released and they were outside, the sheriff said.

Source: <http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2012/mar/07/40/three-juvenile-detainees-loose-after-attacking-gua-ar-956447/>

38. *March 6, WCBS 2 New York* – (New Jersey) **N.J. EMTs warn they're running out of medication.** An ambulance company serving the Jersey Shore in New Jersey said it is running out of some emergency medicines. Employer MONOC Emergency Medical Services in New Jersey said it cannot get a hold of medication needed to treat seizures, WCBS 2 New York reported March 6. They said they have called drug companies, wholesalers, and hospitals.

Source: [http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2012/03/06/n-j-emts-warn-theyre-running-out-of-medication/?hpt=us\\_bn4](http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2012/03/06/n-j-emts-warn-theyre-running-out-of-medication/?hpt=us_bn4)

39. *March 6, WCBD 2 Charleston* – (South Carolina) **Jail riot cost nearly \$200,000; 33 inmates involved.** The January riot inside Lieber Correctional Institute caused more than \$150,000 in damages to the Ashley, South Carolina dorm at the prison, WCBD 2 Charleston reported March 6. According to the spokesman for the prison system, assessment of the damages is still ongoing but they expect the cost to hit closer to \$200,000. January 18, a South Carolina Department of Corrections spokesman told WCBD several prisoners overtook officers at the jail and an overnight riot ensued. An investigation into the incident identified 33 inmates as part of the rioting. Sixteen of them have been transferred to other institutions. All of the 33 have been charged internally and could face criminal charges once a total investigation is completed. Following the riot, the entire institution stayed on lockdown. Inmates were fed in their cells and received no visits or programs from the containment of disturbance January 19 until January 26. Jail officials said other than the Ashley Unit, the institution returned to normal operations January 30. The Ashley Unit remained on lockdown while repairs continued.

Source: <http://www2.counton2.com/news/2012/mar/06/4/jail-riot-cost-nearly-200000-33-inmates-involved-ar-3361327/>

For another story, see item [14](#)

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## **Information Technology Sector**

40. *March 8, The Register* – (International) **Chinese tech firms fingered for military collaboration.** The People's Liberation Army is actively arming and developing its

soldiers with advanced information warfare capabilities which would represent a “genuine risk” to U.S. military operations in the event of a conflict, a new report alleges. Contractor Northrop Grumman’s report for the U.S. government on the cyber threat posed by China was released March 8. The contractor asserts the People’s Republic believes information warfare and computer network operations are a vital part of any military operation and are integrating them with traditional components under a framework known as “information confrontation.” It argues the Chinese military is constantly evaluating U.S. command and control infrastructure and will therefore likely “target these system with both electronic countermeasures weapons and network attack and exploitation tools” in the event of a conflict. The report also warns that joint ventures of the Symantec Huawei type could lead to a risk of intellectual property theft and long-term erosion of competitiveness for Western firms. The close relationship between China’s large multinational telecoms and hardware-makers and the PLA also creates a potential for state-sponsored or directed attacks against the supply chain for equipment used by military, government, and private industry, the report warns.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/03/08/northrop\\_grumman\\_china\\_pla/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/03/08/northrop_grumman_china_pla/)

41. *March 8, Softpedia* – (International) **Hackers find flaws in Microsoft, Dell and TBS sites.** A security researcher that goes by the online handle Flexxpoint found a cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability in Microsoft’s main site. The official sites of Dell Australia and Turner Broadcasting System were identified as containing security holes by the grey hat hacker team known as BlitzSec. E Hacking News reports Flexxpoint discovered the XSS issue in the products page and demonstrated his findings with a simple proof of concept code. If successfully exploited, the vulnerability could allow a hacker with a malicious plan to steal cookies and even launch phishing attacks. The same expert recently identified a similar weakness in the official site of Ubuntu. The other two Web sites that were appointed as being vulnerable by BlitzSec hackers are also susceptible to XSS attacks, one of which is the official site of Dell Australia. With TBS, the situation is slightly different. The site was previously named as being easy to compromise by TeamHav0k and its administrators were notified on these issues at the time. Since the Web site remained unsecured, cookie stealing, XSS Tunnels, and XSS attacks using Metasploit (XSSF) can be performed by hackers who exploit the high severity flaws.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Hackers-Find-Flaws-in-Microsoft-Dell-and-TBS-Sites-257489.shtml>

42. *March 8, H Security* – (International) **Apple closes security holes with iOS 5.1 and iTunes update.** Alongside the launch of the “new iPad,” Apple released iOS 5.1 for the iPhone 3GS, 4 and 4S, the 3rd generation iPod touch, and iPad and iPad 2. The update includes fixes for 91 issues with CVE identifiers. The majority, 66 of the issues, are described as “unexpected application termination or arbitrary code execution” in WebKit due to memory corruption. These flaws were mostly found by Apple or members of the Google Chrome Security Team, while a number were found by a Chrome special reward winner. Two screen lock bypass issues are fixed, including one, a race condition with slide to dial gestures that could bypass the passcode lock, discovered by a researcher from the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, and an uncredited discovery that Siri’s lock screen could be used to

forward messages to an arbitrary user. Another error, which allowed a malicious program to bypass the sandbox by exploiting an error in the handling of debug calls, was fixed, with the error's discovery credited to the "2012 iOS Jailbreak Dream Team." A flaw in Private Browsing in Safari that recorded JavaScript pushState and replaceState methods in browser history was also fixed. Other flaws fixed include information disclosure in CFNetwork with maliciously crafted URLs, an integer underflow when mounting disk images, an integer underflow when processing DNS records, and cross-origin issues with cookies and content which could enable cross-site scripting attacks.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Apple-closes-security-holes-with-iOS-5-1-and-iTunes-update-1466786.html>

43. *March 8, Softpedia* – (International) **Scareware demands ransom after making files and folders invisible.** Bitdefender came across a piece of scareware that makes victims believe something may have happened to all the files and folders stored on their computers. The user is then requested to pay \$80 for a tool that allegedly addresses the problem. Identified as Trojan.HiddenFilesFraud.A, the rogue disk repair utility starts operating by informing the user of certain issues that affect the computer. Since many users are accustomed to fake antivirus, this malicious application is programmed to make everything look more realistic. It changes the attributes of all files and folders, setting them as Hidden, so the user may believe everything was deleted from the hard drive. Certain key shortcuts are also disabled to induce more panic. Also, the worm that downloads HiddenFilesFraud.A, Win32.Brontok.AP@mm, ensures the files' attributes cannot be modified from Windows Explorer back to their original state. After displaying the numerous "errors" that affect the system, the scareware advertises a repair utility that costs \$80. However, the so-called utility does absolutely nothing. Brontok.AP@mm, the element responsible for installing Trojan.HiddenFilesFraud.A, quickly copies itself on removable media drives to ensure it spreads without difficulty from one computer to another.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Scareware-Demands-Ransom-After-Making-Files-and-Folders-Invisible-257383.shtml>

44. *March 8, Softpedia* – (International) **Avast identifies subscription traps as malicious.** A number of Web sites that offer software trick unsuspecting users into installing toolbars and other unwanted applications. Avast revealed its intentions of appointing downloads originating from these types of sites as being malware. The week of February 27, the German government issued a law against the Internet scammers that dupe users into subscribing to paid services while trying to download applications that are supposedly free. Until this law is extended to cover sites that bundle their products with unsolicited toolbars and other features Avast decided to catalogue these downloads as malware. An example of a site that relies on such schemes to serve undesired content is winload(dot)de. If users download an application before verifying the checkboxes above the Download button, they end up with a toolbar that allows the operator to change the default search engine in the Internet browser and change the homepage. Once the toolbar is installed its operators are permitted to install updates on the affected PC, send notifications to the user, collect location-based data, add a different "page not found" functionality, and even collect information from the user's

social network account. The customer is warned the toolbar will be installed, but not with a notification message, rather a piece of text written somewhere above the Download button. These types of scams do not target only German users, instead this is an example of a situation that can happen to anyone worldwide.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Avast-Identifies-Subscription-Traps-as-Malicious-257469.shtml>

45. *March 8, H Security* – (International) **Raspberry Pi delayed by manufacturing mix-up.** Delivery of the Linux-powered tiny computer Raspberry Pi was further delayed by a problem with the manufacturing of the device. The factory producing the boards included the wrong type of network jack in the first few batches which meant those devices did not have a working network connection. The problem was known to the Raspberry Pi team for a few days but was only announced March 8 after further tests were run to make sure the network jack was the only component affected. Since the problem was discovered before the product was shipped to customers, the factory producing the device is now swapping out the wrong part for the correct one. The Raspberry Pi team is working to source more of the required magnetized Ethernet jacks as their existing stockpile is composed entirely of the non-magnetized ones that do not work with the rest of the Raspberry Pi hardware. It is not currently known when the fixed batches of devices will be delivered to consumers who already pre-ordered the Linux computer.  
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/open/news/item/Raspberry-Pi-delayed-by-manufacturing-mix-up-1466520.html>
46. *March 8, H Security* – (International) **Chrome hackers strike Pwnium.** Google's Chrome fell to two separate zero-day attacks at the CanSecWest conference, as researchers took on the browser in the Pwn2Own competition and in Google's own vulnerability hunt, Pwnium. Chrome first fell in Google's Pwnium competition, when a researcher bypassed Chrome's sandbox using only native Chrome code. The fall of Chrome in the Pwnium contest was followed by a fall in the Pwn2Own contest. This time, a team from Vupen Security, who are believed to have leveraged the embedded Adobe Flash Plugin in their exploit, broke out of the Chrome sandbox.  
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Chrome-hackers-strike-Pwnium-1466270.html>
47. *March 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Lenovo recalls ThinkCentre desktop computers due to fire hazard.** March 8, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the Lenovo, announced a voluntary recall of the about 50,500 Lenovo ThinkCentre M70z and M90z computers. The manufacturer/importer of the computers was Lenovo, of Morrisville, North Carolina. The computers were manufactured in Mexico. A defect in an internal component in the power supply can overheat and pose a fire hazard. The firm received reports of one fire incident and one smoke incident in the United States. Only certain of the M70z and M90z computers built in this time frame are affected. Consumers will need to check the serial number on their computer with Lenovo to determine if it is subject to this recall. The computers were sold online at Lenovo's Web sites, by telephone, and direct sales through Lenovo authorized distributors nationwide from May 2011 through January

2012.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml12/12129.html>

48. *March 7, Wired* – (International) **Researchers seek help in solving DuQu mystery language.** DuQu, the malicious code that followed in the wake of Stuxnet, has been analyzed nearly as much as its predecessor. However, one part of the code remains a mystery, and researchers are asking programmers for help in solving it. The mystery concerns an essential component of the malware that communicates with command-and-control servers and has the ability to download additional payload modules and execute them on infected machines. Researchers at Kaspersky Lab are unable to determine the language in which the communication module is written. While other parts of DuQu are written in the C++ programming language and are compiled with Microsoft's Visual C++ 2008, this part is not, according to the chief security expert at Kaspersky Lab. He and his team also determined it is not Objective C, Java, Python, Ada, Lua, or many other languages they know. While it is possible the language was created exclusively by DuQu's authors for their project and has never been used elsewhere, it is also possible it is a language that is commonly used, but only by a specific industry or class of programmers. Kaspersky is hoping someone in the programming community will recognize it and come forward to identify it. Identification of the language could help analysts build a profile of DuQu's authors, particularly if they can tie the language to a group of people known to use this specialized programming language or even to people who were behind its development. DuQu was discovered in 2011 by Hungarian researchers at the Laboratory of Cryptography and System Security at Budapest University of Technology and Economics.

Source: <http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/03/duqu-mystery-language/>

49. *March 7, IDG News Service* – (International) **Spam leads Google to disable interop of its IM network with AOL AIM.** AOL hopes to issue a fix soon to a spam surge in its AIM service targeting Google IM users, a situation that prompted Google to temporarily shut down the interoperability between the two instant messaging networks. Google suspended the IM federation between its IM network and AIM about a week and a half ago in order to shield Gmail Chat and Google Talk users from the high level of AIM spam. "Our backend servers were sending too many spam messages to Google federation gateways," said the senior director of messaging products at AOL. AOL has been working intensely on the problem and expected to issue a fix maybe as soon as March 8. Once the problem is fixed and the interoperability restored, Google and AIM users will again be able to engage in IM sessions, each communicating from their respective networks.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224998/Spam\\_leads\\_Google\\_to\\_disable\\_interop\\_of\\_its\\_IM\\_network\\_with\\_AOL\\_AIM?taxonomyId=17](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224998/Spam_leads_Google_to_disable_interop_of_its_IM_network_with_AOL_AIM?taxonomyId=17)

50. *March 7, IDG News Service* – (International) **DDoS botnet clients start integrating the Apache Killer exploit.** The latest version of a distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) bot called Armageddon integrates a relatively new exploit known as Apache Killer, DDoS mitigation vendor Arbor Networks said March 6. The Apache Killer exploit was

released in August 2011. It exploits a vulnerability in the Apache Web server by sending a specially crafted “Range” HTTP header to trigger a denial-of-service condition. The attack is particularly dangerous because it can be successfully executed from a single computer and the entire targeted machine needs to be rebooted in order to recover from it. “The Kill Apache attack abuses the HTTP protocol by requesting that the target web server return the requested URL content in a huge number of individual chunks, or byte ranges,” said an Arbor research analyst March 6. “This can cause a surprisingly heavy load on the target server.” The vulnerability exploited by Apache Killer is identified as CVE-2011-3192 and was patched in Apache HTTPD 2.2.20, a week after the exploit was publicly released. Apache 2.2.21 contains an improved fix. This is the first time Arbor researchers have seen the exploit being integrated into a DDoS botnet client that is actively being used by attackers, the researcher said. Armageddon is a Russian malware family exclusively designed to launch DDoS attacks. Because it is sold as a toolkit on underground forums, there is more than one Armageddon-powered botnet on the Internet.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224981/DDoS\\_botnet\\_clients\\_start\\_integrating\\_the\\_Apache\\_Killer\\_exploit?taxonomyId=17](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9224981/DDoS_botnet_clients_start_integrating_the_Apache_Killer_exploit?taxonomyId=17)

For another story, see item [31](#)

### **Internet Alert Dashboard**

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

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

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## **Communications Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

51. *March 8, East Montgomery County Observer* – (Texas) **Gas pipeline leak shuts down portion of FM 787.** Cleveland, Texas emergency personnel responded to a gas pipeline leak near the Cleveland Annex building March 7. A City of Cleveland Public Works employee inadvertently struck a 6-inch gas pipeline with a backhoe creating a gash in the pipe. Residents of a nearby apartment complex across the street were asked to shelter-in-place and 19 children at the complex daycare facility were evacuated as a precaution. Traffic was also rerouted around the scene of the leak. In a separate incident, a tree caused power to be cut from at least 800 residents in the same area as

the gas leak. The decision was made to hold off on restoring power because of the possibility of it sparking an explosion.

Source: [http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/east\\_montgomery/news/gas-pipeline-leak-shuts-down-portion-of-fm/article\\_e8a67dbb-c424-5eba-99df-fdc358989c7f.html](http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/east_montgomery/news/gas-pipeline-leak-shuts-down-portion-of-fm/article_e8a67dbb-c424-5eba-99df-fdc358989c7f.html)

52. *March 7, WSAZ 3 Huntington/Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Two Hurricane motels shut down for carbon monoxide threat.** Two motels in Hurricane, West Virginia, were shut down March 7 due to a threat of carbon monoxide, according to emergency officials. The Hurricane fire chief said during a routine inspection at American Inn and Budget Inn, the inspector found improper gaps in some pipes located inside the building. The motels have single-wall pipes into triple-wall pipes. This posed a danger because the pipes were not properly sealed and gas could leak out of them. The buildings were evacuated when the violations were discovered. Fifteen people were inside the buildings at the time of the evacuation. Anyone staying or working at the motels was checked out by EMS to make sure they did not need medical attention. The motels will remain closed until the problems are fixed.

Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/141774083.html>

53. *March 7, NBC New York; Associated Press* – (New York) **Police: House has enough explosives to ‘blow up the entire block’.** Police investigating a marijuana scent at a Long Island, New York home discovered an arsenal of guns, grenades, and bomb-making material that would have been enough to “blow up the entire block,” NBC New York reported. Police officers went to the home in Woodmere after an alarm went off March 7 and found a man there without identification. A Nassau County police inspector said responding officers saw a semi-automatic handgun and two military-style grenades as soon as they opened the door. Police took the man into custody and evacuated about 20 homes on the block as a precaution while they searched the rest of the home. During their search, police discovered a massive cache of weapons, including 100 handguns, 20 rifles, 15 pipe bombs, 15 handmade grenades, and 50 pounds of bomb-making material, police said. In addition to the weapons, police found a marijuana greenhouse as well as a pit in the backyard with a wire that extended into the house. Police believe the man used the pit to test explosives. The home is owned by the man’s parents, who live in Florida during the winter. Police said they were not sure the parents knew the man was living in the house. Authorities said they do not know of any motive the man had for developing the arsenal or what he planned to do with it.

Source: [http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2012/03/07/10602365-police-house-has-enough-explosives-to-blow-up-the-entire-block](http://usnews.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/03/07/10602365-police-house-has-enough-explosives-to-blow-up-the-entire-block)

For more stories, see items [28](#) and [41](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

54. *March 7, Holland Sentinel* – (Michigan) **Saugatuck Dunes State Park fire fought by hand.** Firefighters continued to battle hot spots and flare-ups from a fire discovered March 7 in Michigan’s Saugatuck Dunes State Park. The fire was triggered from a

March 6 controlled burn of cut trees in the park; overnight, a spark stirred up by the warm, dry winds burned grass and treetops over an area estimated at 1 to 2 acres. Departments involved included Saugatuck Township Fire District, Hamilton Fire Department, and Overisel Fire Department, as well as a five-man Department of Natural Resources crew.

Source: <http://www.hollandsentinel.com/newsnow/x587879599/Saugatuck-Dunes-State-Park-fire-fought-by-hand>

55. *March 6, Riverside Press-Enterprise* – (National) **Wildfires: Aerial firefighting fleet insufficient, chief says.** With another potentially devastating wildfire season on the horizon, the U.S. Forest Service chief told Congress March 6 the agency's diminished and aging fleet of firefighting air tankers is insufficient to combat the nation's increasingly severe fires. Air tankers are a central component of the Forest Service's firefighting operations, particularly in Inland Southern California, where communities like Lake Arrowhead, Idyllwild, and Big Bear are surrounded by rugged terrain and are accessible by only a few roads. However, the number of air tankers at the agency's disposal has fallen from 43 to 11 in the last 12 years as airworthiness issues grounded many of the decades-old aircraft. A proposal contains a request for \$24 million to help modernize the agency's aerial firefighting fleet, and the Forest Service is moving forward to acquire more tankers. However, it is unclear when additional aircraft would be available. The fleet has dwindled while fire seasons have grown longer and more destructive, a trend attributed in part to climate change. Wildfires scorched more than 8 million acres in 2011, placing it among the 5 worst years over at least a half-century. Source: <http://www.pe.com/local-news/politics/ben-goad-headlines/20120306-wildfires-aerial-firefighting-fleet-insufficient-chief-says.ece>

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## **Dams Sector**

56. *March 9, Australian Associated Press* – (International) **165 leave Nathalia amid levee fail threat.** The State Emergency Service (SES) issued several alerts to Nathalia, Victoria, Australia, residents March 8, warning them to evacuate the town before nightfall due to fears the levee could fail. By nightfall, 165 people self-evacuated, an SES spokesman said. He said while the levee was still holding up, water was coming up through the ground. Reinforcement of the levee was continuing but there was a problem with floodwaters backing up through the storm water drainage system inside the levee. The water level in Broken Creek was at 3.25 meters March 8, with hydrologists predicting levels to peak at up to 3.3 meters, the spokesman said. "The expected peak is approximately 60-65 centimeters above the 1993 flood level," he said, adding "The water level is not expected to drain below 3 meters until [March 11]." Some 665 properties are at risk of being flooded in the town and four homes were already inundated. A Shepparton incident control center spokesman said the levee should hold but was unstable in some places, as the water has been pushing against it for several days. If the levee fails, 500 homes on the south side of the creek are at risk of flooding, while 150 homes are vulnerable to the north.

Source: <http://news.ninemsn.com.au/national/floods/8432209/165-leave-nathalia-amid-levee-fail-threat>

57. *March 8, Blayney Chronicle* – (International) **Carcoar Dam spills over.** Carcoar Dam in Carcoar, New South Wales, Australia, spilled over for the first time in over 10 years the weekend of March 3 after reaching full capacity due to massive rainfall across the region. Currently, it holds the equivalent of 18,000 Olympic-size swimming pools. February 29, the dam was at 87.2 percent capacity, but by March 5 it was at 100.8 percent. Almost 1,000 megalitres of water was released from the dam. Now full, the dam covers the equivalent of 385 hectares or more than 560 football fields. The height of the dam wall is 46 meters, almost as tall as a 15-story building.

Source: <http://www.blayneychronicle.com.au/news/local/news/general/carcoar-dam-spills-over/2481865.aspx>

58. *March 7, Bismarck Tribune* – (North Dakota) **51.9 million for flood repairs to Garrison Dam.** A senator from North Dakota said March 7 an additional \$700 million in disaster aid was approved for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for flood mitigation efforts on the Missouri River. Nearly \$52 million was targeted for repairs to the Garrison Dam and levees in Williston, he said. In addition to repairs at the Garrison Dam, projects include repairs to the Williston levee, river bank stabilization with repairs at the Hoge Island area, and work to address sandbar concerns near the mouth of the Heart River. According to a Corps project sheet, work on the dam includes 21 assessment and repair items estimated to cost \$51.9 million. The sheet listed “significant actions” that include repairs to the spillway gates, concrete spillway slabs, west abutment walls, and flood control tunnel repairs. The Corps also listed dredging an area upstream of the spillway to restore full capacity, a survey of the spillway channel, spillway dredging, and repairs to the west Tailrace road.

Source: [http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/million-for-flood-repairs-to-garrison-dam/article\\_205d8224-68a4-11e1-8655-001871e3ce6c.html](http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/million-for-flood-repairs-to-garrison-dam/article_205d8224-68a4-11e1-8655-001871e3ce6c.html)

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