



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

16 March 2012

Top Stories

- Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC), the computer contractor hired to overhaul payroll systems for New York City agencies, agreed to pay \$500.4 million to resolve claims it conspired to defraud the city. – *Bloomberg* (See item [9](#))
- Prosecutors in New York indicted two Swiss financial advisers on charges of conspiring to help wealthy Americans hide \$267 million in secret bank accounts. – *Reuters* (See item [12](#))
- A tractor-trailer collided with a school bus March 14 in western Pennsylvania, killing the truck driver and injuring at least 21 people, most of them students, authorities said. – *Associated Press* (See item [15](#))
- A midwestern militia group whose members are accused of plotting to murder police had a “kill list” that included current and former U.S. presidents, government officials, and members of Congress, an FBI agent said March 13. – *Reuters* (See item [36](#))
- A new Ubuntu Linux distribution is being marketed as “Anonymous-OS” and comes pre-loaded with tools for cracking passwords, launching denial of service attacks, and protecting anonymity online. – *Threatpost* (See item [44](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams](#)

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
 - [Emergency Services](#)
 - [National Monuments and Icons](#)
-

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 15, Associated Press* – (New York) **3 NY fuel thefts tapped into underground tanks.** Police in northern New York are investigating the theft of nearly 1,000 gallons of fuel from underground tanks at 3 convenience stores. The Watertown Daily Times reported somebody with a tanker truck and a pump stole the fuel at night from stores in Watertown, Great Bend, and Sackets Harbor between February 11 and March 9. State police and the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office said they have few leads and are asking people to report any unusual activity observed at the stores on the nights of the thefts. Authorities said the thefts included unleaded gasoline, kerosene, and octane gas with a value of \$6,400.
Source:
<http://www.lohud.com/usatoday/article/38805637?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|News|s>

2. *March 14, Queens Times Ledger* – (New York) **Fuel spill causes traffic delays on BQE.** A large oil spill on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE) in New York City tied up traffic in the area of East Elmhurst for several hours March 14 as emergency responders worked to clean the roadway and remove the remaining unspilled fuel from the truck. Trucks traveling into the borough of Queens from the Robert F. Kennedy-Triborough Bridge were forced to stay on the eastbound Grand Central Parkway rather than exit for the BQE, causing delays. The New York City Fire Department had considered the spill to be large but did not immediately quantify the amount of fuel spilled.
Source:
http://www.timesledger.com/stories/2012/11/bqespill_web_2012_03_14_q.html

For more stories, see items [4](#) and [45](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *March 15, WITN 7 Washington* – (North Carolina) **Driver charged after liquid nitrogen fertilizer tank flips.** A tanker driver was charged with exceeding a safe speed after his rig carrying liquid nitrogen fertilizer flipped over and closed a Pitt County, North Carolina highway March 14. The driver was injured in the wreck. The road was closed for several hours as crews worked to clean up spilled fertilizer. The crash occurred when the driver overcorrected after coming around a curve too fast. The rig went into a ditch. Transportation department crews blocked the leaking nitrogen in the ditch. The truck is owned by Taylor Timber of Chocowinity.
Source: <http://www.witn.com/home/headlines/142664316.html>
4. *March 15, Galveston County Daily News* – (Texas) **Day care shelters in place after tanker overturns.** Police closed the southbound frontage road of Interstate 45 at FM 519 in La Marque, Texas, March 14 when a tanker truck overturned, spilling ammonium chloride and prompting a nearby day care to shelter in place. As a precaution, authorities closed a Shell station and Building Blocks Academy. The main lanes of I-45 and the northbound frontage roads were unaffected. The tanker was leaking a small amount of ammonium chloride, which was diluted to a 25-percent solution, a La Marque police lieutenant said. The chemical presents an inhalation hazard and is a skin and eye irritant, according to a material safety data sheet. A HAZMAT crew was expected to arrive March 14 to help authorities decide whether to offload the chemical before righting the tanker.
Source: <http://galvestondailynews.com/story/299610>

For more stories, see items [20](#) and [34](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

5. *March 15, Associated Press* – (California) **Feds probe equipment failure at Calif. nuke plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced March 15 it is sending a special team to investigate the San Onofre nuclear power plant near San Diego after tubes that carry radioactive water failed a pressure test. An augmented inspection team will review equipment design, construction, and operation. The move follows the failure of three tubes in Unit 3 during testing. The unit's two steam generators have been shut down since January 31 after a leak was discovered in one of the thousands of tubes that carry radioactive water for heat transfer. Traces of radioactive gas leaked but officials say there was no danger to workers or neighbors. Unusual wear was found in hundreds of tubes in adjoining Unit 2.
Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/03/15/4340152/feds-probe-equipment-failure-at.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

6. *March 15, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Subaru Forester seat belt assemblies.** Subaru announced March 15 the recall of 275,000 model year 2009-2012 Forester vehicles manufactured from November 26, 2007 through March 13. The automatic locking retractor in the seat belt assemblies located in the rear center seating of the affected vehicles do not meet lockability requirements and fail to comply with federal motor vehicle safety standards. Specifically, the assemblies may not permit proper installation and secure attachment of a child restraint in that seating position. An insecure installation of a child restraint can increase the risk of injury to a child during a crash. Subaru will notify owners, and dealers will replace the rear center seat belt assembly with a newly modified automatic locking retractor.

Source: [http://www-](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V099000&summary=true&prod_id=409764&PrintVersion=YES)

[odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V099000&summary=true&prod_id=409764&PrintVersion=YES](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rel_ID=12V099000&summary=true&prod_id=409764&PrintVersion=YES)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

7. *March 14, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission* – (New York) **CFTC charges former MF Global Broker, with attempted manipulation of palladium and platinum futures prices.** The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced March 14 it filed a federal court action in the Southern District of New York charging a broker with attempted manipulation of the prices of palladium and platinum futures contracts, including the settlement prices, traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX). The CFTC complaint alleged the broker engaged in this conduct from at least June 2006 through May 2008, and specifically on at least 12 separate occasions. The complaint also charges him with aiding and abetting the attempted manipulations of a former portfolio manager of Moore Capital Management, LLC. According to the complaint, while working as a broker at MF Global Inc., he employed a manipulative scheme commonly known as “banging the close.” He intentionally devised and implemented a trading strategy to attempt to maximize the price impact through trading during the 2-minute closing periods of the palladium and platinum futures contracts markets, the complaint charged. The CFTC complaint also stated that to push prices higher, he routinely withheld entering the market-on-close buy orders until only a few seconds remained in the closing periods and thereby caused

the orders to be executed within seconds of the close of trading. The CFTC settled related actions against Moore Capital Management, LP, its affiliates, and the former portfolio manager. The CFTC's order imposed a \$25 million civil monetary penalty. Source: <http://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6210-12>

8. *March 14, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Suspected ‘Wrong Way Bandit’ is charged in O.C. bank robberies.** Orange County, California prosecutors the week of March 12 charged a man suspected of being the so-called Wrong Way Bandit with committing a series of bank robberies. He faces 3 felony counts of attempted second-degree robbery and could be sentenced to more than 50 years in state prison if convicted. The charges were filed March 13. Prosecutors said he committed five robberies and one attempted robbery between August and December 2011 at banks in Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, Costa Mesa, and Tustin. He was arrested March 9. The robber got his moniker because he apparently changed his mind on which way to exit after one of the heists. Source: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/03/dont-post-yet-still-working.html>
9. *March 14, Bloomberg* – (New York) **SAIC to pay \$500 million to settle New York City time fraud.** Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC), the contractor hired to overhaul payroll systems for New York City agencies, agreed to pay \$500.4 million under a deferred-prosecution agreement to resolve claims it conspired to defraud the city. SAIC admitted it failed to investigate claims a manager of the CityTime payroll project directed staffing tasks to a single subcontractor, Technodyne LLC, in exchange for kickbacks, according to documents unsealed March 14 by federal prosecutors. The \$500 million represents the “largest by dollar amount arising out of any state or government contract fraud in history,” the Manhattan U.S. attorney said. The city was billed about \$690 million for SAIC to create a now-operational Web-based, time-keeping payroll management system, according to a spokesman for the mayor. Payments to Technodyne ballooned to \$325 million from \$17 million, even as the contract was amended to transfer cost overruns to the city, said a statement of responsibility submitted by SAIC. The scheme “lasted more than 7 years,” the U.S. attorney said. Prosecutors charged 11 defendants plus Technodyne. SAIC agreed to the filing of one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and agreed to disgorge proceeds of the offense, including \$370.4 million in restitution to the city and a \$130 million penalty, the Justice Department said. The agreement also calls for SAIC to forgive \$40 million more in invoiced billings. The U.S. attorney said his office has liens on \$52 million more in illegal gains of individual defendants. Depending on the resolution of frozen assets, the project will have cost the city \$134 million to \$186 million of the \$692 million billed, a spokesman for the mayor said in an e-mail. Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-03-14/saic-to-pay-500-million-to-settle-new-york-city-time-fraud-case.html>
10. *March 14, KTVU 2 Oakland* – (California) **Vacaville bandit may be tied to Chino bank shooting.** Police were searching for a masked man March 14 after he robbed a Bank of the West in Vacaville, California, armed with an AK-47 and wearing body armor. Investigators said they believe it may be the same man who shot and wounded a

police officer in a recent bank robbery in Chino. A police sergeant said the man entered the bank in Vacaville and demanded money March 12. He then took some cash and fled. He was wearing a black ski mask and a green-colored tactical vest with the word “SHERIFF” in block letters on the back, the sergeant said. Detectives are investigating whether the robbery is related to similar robberies in Sacramento and Chino, he said. In the Chino robbery, which occurred at a California Bank and Trust February 29, the robber shot a responding police officer with an assault rifle. The officer drove himself to a hospital and was listed in stable condition.

Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/crime-law/vacaville-bandit-may-be-tied-chino-bank-shooting/nLStW/>

11. *March 14, Boulder Daily Camera* – (Colorado) **Officials nab suspected ‘Face Off Bandit,’ wanted in three Boulder bank robberies.** A suspect who police believe used fake beards while robbing at least six banks, including three in Boulder, Colorado, has been caught, authorities said March 14. The suspect was arrested on a warrant by Boulder police as he was leaving a Walmart store in Thornton, according to Boulder authorities. Police said they think he is the “Face Off Bandit,” a name given by FBI agents because investigators believe he wore fake beards as disguises and left them behind as he fled. The first Boulder robbery took place December 16, 2011 at a Great Western Bank, the second robbery was at a First Bank January 19, and a Chase Bank was robbed February 15. He also is suspected of robbing a Wells Fargo Bank in Golden, a Key Bank in Thornton, and a First National Bank in Louisville. Those cases remain under investigation.

Source: http://www.dailycamera.com/boulder-county-news/ci_20176096/boulder-officials-nab-suspected-face-off-bandit-wanted?IADID=Search-www.dailycamera.com-www.dailycamera.com

12. *March 14, Reuters* – (National; International) **Two Swiss financial advisers indicted in U.S.** Prosecutors in New York March 14 indicted two Swiss financial advisers, one a former private banker at financial giant UBS AG, on charges of conspiring to help wealthy Americans hide \$267 million in secret bank accounts. Charges were brought against the men in separate indictments. Both live in Switzerland, but they worked separately from each other. In the latest development in a U.S. crackdown on Swiss banking, the indictment said one man was a client adviser at Swiss-based UBS from 1993 to around 2003, then later worked at a series of unnamed Swiss asset management firms. He helped U.S. clients hide money at UBS and other Swiss banks, including Wegelin, a small Swiss bank indicted in February by the Justice Department for selling tax evasion services to American clients. He handled about 32 accounts holding \$138 million for U.S. clients of UBS, and helped about 13 transfer their accounts to Wegelin and other Swiss banks when UBS came under pressure from U.S. authorities around 2008. He also helped clients fleeing UBS transfer accounts to the Swiss branch of an unnamed Israeli bank, the indictment said. The other adviser worked at Beck Verwaltungen AG, an independent advisory firm in Zurich, from the late 1980s to 2010. He managed U.S. client accounts worth \$129 million. The two were also charged with “operating unlicensed money transmitting businesses” that funneled client money between banks and clients.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/03/14/us-swiss-advisers-indictment-idUSBRE82D15Y20120314>

13. *March 14, Bloomberg* – (National) **BCI Aircraft Leasing owner guilty in \$50 million fraud case.** BCI Aircraft Leasing Inc. and its principal were found guilty by a federal court jury of engaging in a fraudulent \$50 million financing scheme, a Chicago U.S. attorney said March 14. The principal and his business were found guilty of six wire fraud counts and one count of obstructing a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission probe. “[The principal] and BCI raised or otherwise obtained more than \$50 million, commingled those funds and misappropriated some of the funds for their own use,” the U.S. attorney said. They also provided false information in connection with a Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) lawsuit, he said. BCI had been a provider of aircraft to U.S. Airways Group Inc. and Southwest Airlines Co. The SEC sued in 2007, alleging the business was a Ponzi scheme in which early investors were repaid with money taken from those who followed. The principal was indicted in March 2010. The company and other defendants were added in a revised charging document in September 2010. The principal faces as long as 30 years imprisonment on each wire-fraud count, plus a \$1 million fine and as long as 20 years in prison for obstruction. Three co-defendants pleaded guilty, two of whom testified against the principal at trial, the U.S. attorney said.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-03-14/bci-aircraft-leasing-owner-guilty-in-50-million-fraud-case>

For another story, see item [26](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

14. *March 15, Wenatchee World* – (Washington) **Quincy bus crash investigation will take months.** Investigators said there is no indication that speeding, mechanical problems, or driver impairment caused a school bus crash near Quincy, Washington, March 12. However, determining what caused the crash of the Quincy School District bus, which injured numerous students, will take months, said a detective with the state patrol’s major accident investigation team. That is because of an unusually large backlog of other investigations, he said March 14. The accident happened on Highway 281 near the White Trail Road intersection. The bus left the roadway and the driver over-corrected twice, said a state patrol report. It then rolled onto its right side, struck a ditch, and came to rest on its right side. The accident sent a student to a hospital by air ambulance. A hospital spokeswoman said she was treated and released. The bus driver was also treated and released from a hospital. The state patrol report said 38 other students were on the bus and they were transported to area hospitals for various injuries.

Source: <http://www.wenatcheeworld.com/news/2012/mar/14/quincy-bus-crash-investigation-will-take-months/>

15. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **1 dead, others hurt in Pa. school bus, truck crash.** A tractor-trailer collided with a school bus carrying about 2 dozen students and adults March 14 in western Pennsylvania, killing the truck driver and injuring at least 21 people, most of them students, authorities said. The crash occurred on Route 281 near Rockwood, state police said. The truck and a school bus taking Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District students back from a school in Somerset struck each other. The truck crossed over into southbound lanes and hit the bus almost head-on, said a trooper. Twenty-three people, including 2 adults and 21 high-school students, were on the bus. Two adults and three juveniles were flown to a hospital. A hospital official later said one adult was in critical condition and the other adult and two of the children were listed as fair; the third juvenile was treated and released. Another child was flown to a hospital in Pittsburgh was later listed in good condition, an official said. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hI5Dn-zb9a5vunG3JQHKPRyz39Q?docId=632e85a9aa454c879af9281e1ef25674>
16. *March 14, Associated Press* – (California) **Teen shot after argument on SF Muni bus.** San Francisco police said a boy was shot multiple times as he stepped off a city bus in a suspected gang-related attack. The shooting occurred around 1:30 p.m. March 12 in Visitacion Valley after the boy apparently got into an argument with a man on the 9-San Bruno bus. A police spokesman said the man shot the teen three or four times in the chest as the teen stepped down from the bus through the rear doors. The suspect, who was not identified, then ran away. The boy was taken to San Francisco General Hospital with life-threatening injuries. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2012/03/14/state/n060939D32.DTL>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [13](#), [29](#), [45](#), [48](#), and [51](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *March 15, Baton Rouge Advocate* – (Louisiana) **Deputies investigate post office break-in.** Assumption Parish, Louisiana sheriff's detectives joined with federal postal inspectors March 14 in investigating a break-in at the U.S. post office in Belle Rose, deputies said. Someone smashed a window and rummaged through several areas inside, deputies said in a news release. The sheriff said postal inspectors were trying to determine if any mail had been stolen. Source: <http://theadvocate.com/news/2323795-123/deputies-investigate-post-office-break-in>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *March 15, Food Safety News* – (California) **Epidemiologic report ties Organic Pastures raw milk to outbreak.** Five California boys found with genetically matching

E. coli O157:H7 infections in the fall of 2011 were conclusively linked to raw milk produced by Organic Pastures, a Fresno dairy, according to a report published March 12 by the California Department of Public Health. Following an investigation by the state health department and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the report concluded that Organic Pastures raw milk was the only common exposure between the five boys, who each drank it within the week prior to falling ill. The report also noted there might have been additional E. coli infections from the same lot of raw milk that went undiagnosed and unreported. In November 2011, the state veterinarian announced a statewide recall of all Organic Pastures raw milk products, with the exception of cheese aged to at least 60 days. The dairy was then placed on a quarantine order and not allowed to produce raw milk for retail for 30 days. Health department officials inspected the dairy and found many sanitation problems. Following the November 2011 outbreak, the state department of health forced Organic Pastures to discontinue production of its raw colostrum permanently, even though that product was not suspected of causing the outbreak.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/03/california-department-of-public-health-publishes-final-report-on-organic-pastures-raw-milk-outbreak/>

19. *March 14, Food Safety News* – (National; International) **CDC: Outbreaks linked to imported foods increasing.** Foodborne illness outbreaks linked to imported food appeared to rise between 2009 and 2010, according to a new analysis released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) March 14. The CDC reported half of the foods implicated in outbreaks were imported from “areas which previously had not been associated with outbreaks.” The research was presented at the International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases in Atlanta. “It’s too early to say if the recent numbers represent a trend, but CDC officials are analyzing information from 2011 and will continue to monitor for these outbreaks in the future,” an epidemiologist in the CDC’s Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases and the lead author of the study said. The review found fish was the most common culprit, with 17 outbreaks total. The second most common food group was spices, with six outbreaks, including five from fresh or dried peppers. The CDC reported that nearly 45 percent of the foods tied to outbreaks came from Asia.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/03/cdc-outbreaks-linked-to-imported-foods-increasing-2/>

20. *March 14, U.S. Department of Labor* – (New York) **US Labor Department’s OSHA cites Agro Farma for 34 violations of workplace safety and health standards; proposes \$178,000 in fines.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited Agro Farma Inc. for 34 alleged violations of workplace safety and health standards at its New Berlin, New York facility. The manufacturer of Chobani Greek Yogurt faces \$178,000 in proposed penalties following inspections prompted by a complaint. The OSHA found many instances of unguarded moving machine parts; electrical hazards, including failing to train employees in electric safety-related work practices; a lack of personal protective equipment for employees working on live electrical equipment; a lack of fall protection for employees accessing the top of milk trucks; missing or inadequate energy control procedures and training for employees cleaning a trash compactor; failing to label all confined space

work areas and provide confined space training; wet floors; unguarded floor holes; railings not provided over dangerous equipment; and stairway and exit deficiencies. The inspection also identified deficiencies in the process safety management program, which prevents the unexpected release of toxic, reactive, or flammable liquids and gases in processes involving highly hazardous chemicals, including unlabeled containers of hazardous chemicals; failing to provide audiometric testing for employees exposed to excess noise levels; and failing to refit and retrain employees who experienced a hearing loss.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=21975

21. *March 14, Associated Press* – (Kansas; New York; Pennsylvania) **50 from Kansas treated for food poisoning in Pa.** Dozens of Kansas high school students and chaperones who became ill after eating in New York while on a band trip were treated for food poisoning symptoms at a western Pennsylvania hospital, the Associated Press reported March 14. Those sickened were part of a group of 164 people aboard 3 buses from De Soto High School. The group stopped March 14 at a hospital in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania. “When they first arrived, 20 students were experiencing symptoms of food poisoning, but in order not to separate the entire group they brought all three buses to the hospital,” a hospital spokeswoman said. “As soon as they were treated, 20 more students got sick, and after they were treated 10 chaperones got sick.” She said the group ate in New York before beginning the return trip, but she did not know where. She said those sickened were hydrated and treated with medicine to combat nausea. The Pennsylvania and New York state health departments were notified and were investigating where and what the band group ate.

Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/AP37c173ccd9ca4468b23c0c19aaee33d9.html>

22. *March 14, Portland Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Fire causes \$50,000 damage at Old Town Pizza in Northeast Portland.** A fire broke out March 14 at Old Town Pizza in Portland, Oregon, filling it with smoke and causing an estimated \$50,000 in damage. Firefighters used fans to clear the smoke and hoses to put out the fire that was burning between the restaurant’s loft and bathrooms. A carbon dioxide container used in the restaurant’s small brewery leaked, but the contents evaporated, fire officials said in a news release. A neighboring hair salon sustained some water damage, said a fire bureau spokesman.

Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2012/03/fire_causes_50000_damage_at_ol.html

23. *March 14, WDAY 6 Fargo* – (Minnesota) **Area fire departments continue to battle fire at Moorhead packaging plant.** Multiple departments continued to battle a fire at the Pactiv Plant in Moorhead, Minnesota, March 14. Damage estimates were in the millions. Crews battled the fire for at least 7 hours. The building was feared to be a total loss as officials said much of the ceiling caved in and the foundation was cracking. Officials evacuated all 45 employees before crews arrived. The 130,000 square-foot plant specialized in making egg cartons by using recycled newspaper and a natural gas

oven. “A lot of gas and heat in those ovens, so when they ignite all the lint and the paper lint at the ceiling level can ignite,” the Moorhead fire chief said. Moorhead fire officials believed the fire started at the west end of the building at the pulp dryer. Multiple crews were on scene throughout the night giving aid, from Barnesville, Fargo, Dilworth, Glyndon, and Sabin.

Source: <http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/60603/>

For another story, see item [3](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

24. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **DEP tracking source of more methane in wells.** State environmental officials are investigating the source of methane detected in three Montrose, Pennsylvania water wells. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said the gas could be coming from nearby gas drilling operations or a natural methane seep documented for more than a century at nearby Salt Springs State Park. A DEP spokeswoman said regulators are comparing the unique chemical signature of that leak to a trio of wells in Franklin Township, Susquehanna County. Tests of one well in December showed the methane posed an explosion risk. Source: <http://www.wfmj.com/story/17164314/dep-tracking-source-of-more-methane-in-wells>
25. *March 14, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Ohio) **EPA proposes the West Troy Contaminated Aquifer site in Ohio for Superfund National Priorities List.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has proposed adding the West Troy Contaminated Aquifer in Troy, Ohio, to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites. The city of Troy operates two well fields along a 1.25-mile segment of the Great Miami River. Troy’s West Well Field has four wells on park land bordering the east side of the river. Since 1986, volatile organic compounds have been detected in a production well. Source: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/8217e69213c2654a852579c1007086ab?OpenDocument>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

26. *March 15, Softpedia* – (National) **TRICARE customers report fraudulent transactions.** Nextgov reported March 15 that some of the 4.9 million individuals whose sensitive information was found on TRICARE tapes from a data breach in 2011 are reporting unauthorized transactions being made from their bank accounts. Currently, there are eight separate lawsuits filed over the TRICARE data breach demanding \$4.9 billion from the Department of Defense. A complaint amended to one lawsuit revealed many plaintiffs had to cancel their credit cards and close their bank accounts after they noticed that their assets were compromised. Therefore, it is now

believed that the theft was targeted; the car the tapes were stolen from was a compact model surrounded by a number of luxury cars, all of which remained untouched. “The thief or thieves stealthily broke into the employee’s Honda Civic and took the unencrypted backup tapes and records, thereby gaining information worth billions of dollars. The nature of this theft supports the logical inference that the thief or thieves were specifically targeting the confidential information contained on the backup tapes and records,” the complaint reads.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/TRICARE-Customers-Report-Fraudulent-Transactions-258830.shtml>

27. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Alabama; National; International) **Thieves stealing old X-rays nationwide.** A report filed with Huntsville, Alabama police said two 55-gallon barrels containing up to 1,000 patient information microfilms (X-rays) were stolen from Huntsville Hospital March 7. But the crime was not about identity theft. Instead, hospital officials think the thieves plan to melt the X-rays to extract the silver in them, as the films did not contain sensitive medical records. The stolen X-rays could be worth up to \$1,200 in extracted silver, said the director of sales for a New Hampshire medical recycling firm. Huntsville Hospital’s biggest concern about the episode may be the security breach that allowed someone posing as a vendor to come into the hospital and take away the barrels. The barrels were waiting to be collected by a vendor. Other recent cases include a Toronto, Canada, man who was charged with fraud in Ottawa after nearly 30,000 X-rays were stolen from hospitals and clinics across Ontario province. And the Lowell Sun of Lowell, Massachusetts reported the week of March 5 that two Florida men were charged with stealing a 50-pound barrel of used X-rays from Lowell General Hospital.

Source: <http://www.myfoxdfw.com/dpp/news/national/Thieves-Stealing-Old-X-Rays-Nationwide-031512>

28. *March 14, Food Safety News* – (National; International) **Gastroenteritis deaths have doubled.** According to an analysis presented by the Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) March 14 at the International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases in Atlanta, the number of people of all ages who died from gastroenteritis more than doubled from 1999 to 2007 in the United States, and most of the deaths from infectious causes can be attributed to two stomach bugs: Clostridium difficile (C. diff) and norovirus. While C. diff continues to be the leading cause of deaths from gastroenteritis in the U.S. and throughout the world, a new study showed for the first time that norovirus is likely the second leading infectious cause of gastroenteritis deaths. Over the 8-year study period, the CDC said, gastroenteritis-associated deaths from all causes grew from nearly 7,000 to more than 17,000 per year.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/03/gastroenteritis-is-deadly/>

For more stories, see items [33](#) and [39](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

29. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Floods lead to Ohio school closings, evacuation.** Flooding from early morning rain March 15 closed some roads and schools and led authorities to recommend evacuation of a mobile home park in Hebron, Ohio. Lakewood Local Schools closed Hebron elementary and Jackson intermediate because buses were having difficulty getting to students. Media outlets also reported a mobile home park was being evacuated after water rose to some front doors. WCMH 4 Columbus reported Licking County emergency officials said much of the village was under water, and at least 10 people were rescued by firefighters and other crews. Source: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/ohio-news/floods-lead-to-ohio-school-closings-evacuation-1344207.html>
30. *March 15, CNN* – (Virginia) **Virginia Tech to review negligence verdict in 2007 shooting rampage.** Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia, plans to consider all of its options after it reviews a jury verdict that found it was negligent in a 2007 shooting rampage that left 33 people dead, including the gunman, a university spokesman said. The move follows the verdict by a seven-member jury March 14 that awarded \$4 million each to two victims' families who sued the state for wrongful death. The jury found Virginia Tech failed to notify students early enough following the discovery of two shooting victims at West Ambler Johnston dormitory. The two students were the first victims of the shooter, who went on to kill 30 more people at Norris Hall after chaining the doors closed. He also wounded 17 people before killing himself. The families of two victims killed in Norris Hall argued that had officials notified students, faculty, and staff of the shooting earlier, lives might have been spared. They did not accept a portion of an \$11 million settlement between the state and families of victims, opting instead to sue for wrongful death. While the jury awards the families \$4 million each, an attorney for the state has asked the judge to reduce the verdict to \$100,000 per claim. State law limits awards to \$100,000, though the judge approved a request by an attorney for the family to file a motion on the matter. The Department of Education found, in a 2010 report, that Virginia Tech did not notify students in a "timely manner" after the shooting at the dormitory. The government also fined Virginia Tech for failing to follow internal school policies. Since the massacre, the school has beefed up its communications, using methods that include e-mail notices; telephone, cellular phone, and text messages; classroom electronic message signs; posters; university Web site notices; campus loudspeakers; and desktop alerts. Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/03/15/justice/virginia-virginia-tech/index.html?hpt=hp_t3
31. *March 15, KTRK 13 Houston; Associated Press* – (Texas) **Four shot, one killed outside Jefferson County Courthouse.** A Houston man at court with family members opened fire outside a Beaumont, Texas courthouse March 14, killing one person and wounding at least three others before briefly taking hostages at a nearby business, police said. The accused gunman was inside the Jefferson County Courthouse, but went out to his pickup truck, drew a weapon, and began shooting. A detective outside the courthouse fired back. Authorities said the suspect was on trial for aggravated sexual assault. Two of the shooting victims, including his daughter, were witnesses in the case.

A woman was pronounced dead at the scene, in front of the courthouse main entrance. Officials said the suspect retreated to his truck, continued firing, and ran over his daughter. He drove about 3 blocks and abandoned his truck in the middle of the street before entering a nearby construction business. One of the owners of the construction business said about 50 to 60 employees were inside when the gunman entered. He was taken into custody about an hour after the shooting. The suspect was treated and released from the hospital. He is currently in the Jefferson County Jail, charged with one count of murder. The suspect's daughter was in critical condition. Her mother and another shooting victim were treated at area hospitals and released.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8580893>

32. *March 14, CNN* – (Ohio) **4 people injured in Ohio stabbing attack.** Three people were in critical condition and one in stable condition after a stabbing incident March 14 in Columbus, Ohio, that ended with the suspect being shot by police, Columbus authorities said. The attack began inside a building that houses Miami-Jacobs Career College. The suspect was in critical condition at a hospital. A police official said a confrontation between two men in the admissions office led to one of the men stabbing the other. A witness in the office tried to intervene and also was stabbed, he said. The fight then spilled into the lobby, where the man stabbed two more victims, authorities said. The suspect was shot outside the building by an officer responding to the scene. The officer also used a stun gun to subdue the suspect. Three knives were recovered from the scene, one inside the admissions office, and two on the street where the suspect was shot, authorities said. A spokesperson for Miami-Jacobs Career College, said the campus was closed March 14 and March 15.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/03/14/justice/ohio-stabbing-attack/index.html?hpt=us_c2

33. *March 14, WBBM 2 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Police: Fire outside Glenview Hospital not from explosive device.** Two schools in Glenview, Illinois, were closed March 14, after authorities found what they originally said was believed to be a small explosive device that had gone off in the parking lot of a hospital nearby. However, officials later said it was only a fire. Police arrested a man in connection to the fire. He is charged with criminal damage to property and disorderly conduct, a police release said. The safety of patients, employees and visitors at the hospital was never in jeopardy, according to the hospital. As a precautionary measure, Glenbrook South High School and Winkelman School closed for the day. A notice on the West Northfield School District 31 Web site said Winkelman, an elementary school, was closed because police had to conduct a thorough search of the school building and grounds. A notice on the Glenbrook South Web site said school was canceled “to allow for more information to be collected.” The Cook County Bomb Squad and representatives from the DHS were assisting Glenview police in investigating the explosion.

Source: <http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2012/03/14/2-glenview-schools-closed-after-small-bomb-explodes-in-hospital-parking-lot/>

34. *March 14, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Hill may face extensive fines for mercury leak.** Hill Air Force Base near Ogden, Utah, could face millions of dollars in fines for failing to report 60 pounds of mercury that leaked in 2007, was cleaned up by untrained

workers using everyday vacuums, and then stored in plastic containers around the base for years, the Associated Press reported March 14. The maximum daily fine for the violations is \$13,000 a day, meaning the potential penalty for 4 years of violations could total more than \$18 million. “The issue is that they didn’t report the spill, and they stored the mercury without a permit,” the agency director of the state division of solid and hazardous waste said. The violations were brought to light by a former employee who became concerned about the potential environmental threats of the mercury, an attorney who is representing the former employee said. Repeated exposure to low levels of mercury can cause muscle tremors and personality changes, according to the federal Environmental Protection Agency. Mercury can also damage the central nervous system, kidneys, and brain.

Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2012/03/ap-air-force-hill-may-face-extensive-fines-mercury-leak-031412/>

35. *March 14, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Fire closes Price school; student arrested.** An intentionally set fire shut down Price, Utah’s middle school for the day March 14. The small fire started at Mont Harmon Junior High School and did about \$15,000 in damage to a custodian’s room before firefighters were able to douse the flames, said the fire chief. All the students and staff evacuated the building and were sent home for the day. Price police arrested a student at the middle school after the state fire marshal concluded the fire was intentionally set. The fire chief said “a heating appliance was placed on a combustible item.” Smoke spread throughout the building, but everything was expected to be cleaned up for classes March 15.

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/53717228-78/fire-blaze-chemicals-price.html.csp>

36. *March 13, Reuters* – (National) **FBI agent: Midwest militia group had ‘kill’ list.** A midwestern militia group whose members are accused of plotting to murder police had a “kill list” that included current and former U.S. presidents, top government officials, and members of Congress, an FBI agent testified March 13 in a Detroit federal court. The list from members of the group called the Hutaree was titled “Established Elite Still in Control” and included military officers, reporters, and corporate executives, the FBI agent said. The agent, who had gained access to the group by posing as a truck driver, said the list was circulated during the wedding of a Hutaree leader. Seven members of the Hutaree face federal charges of sedition, the attempted use of weapons of mass destruction, and firearms offenses. Defense attorneys argued the group was merely engaging in angry expressions of free speech and did not intend to commit acts of terrorism. The trial is the latest in prosecutions aimed at what the government sees as a growing threat of violence from home-grown anti-government groups.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/46722890/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/#.T2H4ZnkehBm

37. *March 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Exec pleads guilty in \$28 million contracting fraud scheme against Army Corps of Engineers.** A former executive March 13 admitted his role in a \$28 million bribery scheme involving the awarding of government contracts and is cooperating with prosecutors in their investigation. The executive pleaded guilty in federal court in Washington D.C. to bribery and unlawful

kickbacks. He was arrested in October 2011 along with three other men, including two employees of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Prosecutors said their investigation unmasked one of the largest and most brazen government procurement frauds in history. The fraud involved contracts steered to favored subcontractors for kickbacks, contracts awarded through bribery, and the submission of phony and inflated invoices for payment, prosecutors said. The illicit proceeds of the scheme were split among multiple defendants for personal use, authorities said. The executive admitted to soliciting and accepting more than \$1 million in kickbacks from the chief technology officer for Nova Datacom, in exchange for giving the subcontractor preferential treatment. He also admitted to paying, offering, and promising more than \$7 million in bribes in return for approval on Army Corps of Engineers contracts and subcontracts, authorities said. At the time of his arrest, the executive was director of contracts for Eyak Technology. Prosecutors initially described the scheme as totaling \$20 million, but they said the scope of the fraud has increased to \$28 million as new bribes and kickback payments have been discovered.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/executive-to-plead-guilty-in-20-million-contract-fraud-scheme-against-army-corps/2012/03/13/gIQALBPg9R_story.html

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

38. *March 14, Victorville Daily Press* – (California) **Calif. corrections officer allegedly killed another.** The Santa Barbara County, California District Attorney's office charged a Lompoc prison employee with shooting and killing a Victorville Federal Correctional Complex guard. The prison employee appeared in Lompoc Superior Court March 13, but his arraignment was continued until April 3 so his defense attorney could review the discovery and investigate the case, the deputy district attorney said. The suspect shot and killed the lieutenant of Apple Valley in his hotel room March 8, according to Lompoc Police Department officials. Police officers found the lieutenant dead in the room with a gunshot wound to his neck. The two knew each other, but officials are still investigating the motive for the shooting, a Lompoc police sergeant said.

Source: <http://www.officer.com/news/10655862/calif-corrections-officer-allegedly-killed-another>

39. *March 14, Correctional News* – (Maryland) **Potential security breach leads to replacement of Maryland inmate workers.** Some Medicaid users may be worried after auditors in Maryland revealed inmates had access to patients' Social Security numbers (SSN), Correctional News reported March 14. According to a legislative services report, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene used inmate labor to enter physician Medicaid reimbursement claims into a database. SSNs in the designated place on forms were automatically blacked out — but in some cases, numbers for the recipient and/or provider appeared in other locations on the form that

were visible to inmates while processing the paperwork. This occurred in roughly 3 out of 3,000 cases reviewed, when doctors' offices mistakenly used a patient's SSN as the account identifier, said a spokesman for the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS). In a response to the auditors' claims, Maryland Correctional Enterprises, an industry arm of DPSCS that puts inmates to work, was notified that it would no longer be filling those jobs.

Source: <http://www.correctionalnews.com/articles/2012/03/14/potential-security-breach-leads-replacement-maryland-inmate-workers>

For more stories, see items [30](#) and [36](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

40. *March 15, H Security* – (International) **Pidgin IM client 2.10.2 closes DoS holes.** Version 2.10.2 of the open source Pidgin instant messaging program was released. According to its developers, the maintenance and security update brings a number of changes and addresses two denial-of-service vulnerabilities that could be exploited by an attacker to cause the application to be terminated. These remote crashes are caused when the MSN server sends messages that are not UTF-8 encoded and also when some types of nickname changes occur in chat rooms using the XMPP protocol. Versions up to and including 2.10.1 are affected. Pidgin 2.10.2 fixes these issues and all users are advised to upgrade.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Pidgin-IM-client-2-10-2-closes-DoS-holes-1472596.html>
41. *March 15, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Hackers offer bounty for Windows RDP exploit.** A Web site that bills itself as a place where independent and open source software developers can hire each other has secured promises to award at least \$1,435 to the first person who can develop a working exploit that takes advantage of a newly disclosed and dangerous security hole in all supported versions of Microsoft Windows., Krebs on Security reported March 15. That reward is offered to any developer who can devise an exploit for one of two critical vulnerabilities that Microsoft patched March 13 in its Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP is designed as a way to let administrators control and configure machines remotely over a network). The bounty comes courtesy of contributors to gun.io, a site that advances free and open software. The current bounty offered for the exploit is almost certainly far less than the price such a weapon could command on the underground market, or even what a legitimate vulnerability research company might pay for such research.
Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2012/03/hackers-offer-bounty-for-windows-rdp-exploit/>
42. *March 14, H Security* – (International) **Firefox, Thunderbird and SeaMonkey updates fix critical vulnerabilities.** In the latest round of updates of its suite of Internet applications, Mozilla detailed the security fixes in the Firefox 11 browser, Thunderbird 11 e-mail and news client, and SeaMonkey 2.8 “all-in-one internet

application suite.” There are also fixes for the “enterprise” and legacy versions of Firefox and Thunderbird. These fixes include a correction to a memory error in Array.join() which was fixed in February, but was exploited during the recent Pwn2Own contest. According to the Security Advisories for Firefox page, the Firefox 11.0 update addresses eight vulnerabilities in the browser, five of which are rated as “Critical.” The same vulnerabilities were also fixed in Thunderbird 11 and SeaMonkey 2.8, as they are based on the same Gecko platform as Firefox 11. These critical issues include memory handling errors and a use-after-free problem that could lead to memory corruption, a crash when accessing keyframe cssText, and a privilege escalation issue when javascript is used as the home page URL. A critical use-after-free bug in SVG animation was also fixed. Some of these vulnerabilities, Mozilla said, could be exploited remotely by an attacker to, for example, execute arbitrary code on a victim’s system. Mozilla also corrected three moderate vulnerabilities, including two cross-site scripting holes, and an issue that could be used for UI spoofing.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Firefox-Thunderbird-and-SeaMonkey-updates-fix-critical-vulnerabilities-1471708.html>

43. *March 14, SecurityNewsDaily* – (International) **Hackers expose Ancestry.com security hole.** A security bug may exist on Ancestry.com that could leave the personal information of its registered users exposed and vulnerable to theft. TeamHav0k, a network of “gray hat” hackers, found an SQL injection vulnerability in the genealogy-tracing Web site. To prove its point, the group copied the contents of a database belonging to the genealogical Web site and posted it online. In a Pastebin post, the TeamHav0k hackers preface the leak with a note explaining their exploit was not meant to do any damage to Ancestry.com’s registered users, but simply to highlight what the hackers believe is a major flaw for a high-profile site to have. Ancestry.com’s director of corporate communications said the vulnerability exposed by TeamHav0k “is on the company’s corporate website, which is a separate website housed by a third party vendor and is not connected to any Ancestry.com customer financial or personal tree information.” SecurityNewsDaily opened the leaked database contents, which amounted to only 35 kilobytes. No actual user information was included; rather, the data seemed to be mostly front-end forms a member would use to fill in family information when first signing up with Ancestry.com.

Source: <http://www.securitynewsdaily.com/1618-hackers-ancestry-security.html>

44. *March 14, Threatpost* – (International) **New Linux distro promoted as Anonymous-OS.** A new Ubuntu Linux distribution is being marketed as “Anonymous-OS” and comes pre-loaded with tools for hacking and protecting anonymity online. However, it is unclear whether the new operating system was created by the hacking group, or even has its endorsement. Anonymous-OS Version 0.1 was released March 13 and is being offered from Sourceforge and as a bitTorrent download, according to a post on a Tumblr.com page for Anonymous-OS. The operating system is an Ubuntu-based Linux distribution created under Ubuntu version 11.10. It uses the Mate Desktop Environment. The operating system was created for “educational purposes” to “(check) the security of Web pages,” according to the Anonymous-OS Tumblr page. The new distribution comes loaded with tools useful to hackers, security researchers, and those interested in preserving their anonymity online. Among the applications bundled with

Anonymous-OS are the anonymizing Tor client, Wireshark, a network protocol analyzer, password cracker John the Ripper, and Pyloris, a tool for launching denial of service attacks. Though the new Linux distribution makes use of Anonymous's iconography, it is unclear whether any link exists between the group and those behind the new operating system. Twitter accounts associated with the group used to promote other Anonymous operations were silent on the new operating system, suggesting it was "inspired" by Anonymous more than it was made by the group.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/new-linux-distro-promoted-anonymous-os-031412

For more stories, see items [9](#), [26](#), [37](#), [39](#), and [47](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at 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>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

45. *March 15, WDTN 2 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Downed wires cause a whole lot of mess.** A truck tangled in wires caused problems on several levels along Interstate 675 in Beavercreek, Ohio March 15. Crews were working on the sound barriers near Indian Ripple Road when a dump truck with its bed raised up in the air got into some overhead lines. Fiber optic cables were pulled down, forcing police to block the northbound lanes at Indian Ripple Road for about 20 minutes. The downed fiber lines also killed cable TV service to three area communities, according to Beavercreek police. Dayton Power & Light told WDTN 2 Dayton the accident also caused a power outage affecting 2,579 customers. All of those customers have since had their power restored. Police said the driver of the dump truck could possibly be charged with failure to control his vehicle. Source: http://www.wdtn.com/dpp/news/local/greene_county/downed-wires-cause-a-whole-lot-of-mess

46. *March 14, Bluffton Island Packet* – (South Carolina) **FCC levies \$25K fine on Hilton Head radio station owner.** The owner of a South Carolina radio station faces a \$25,000 fine by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Bluffton Island Packet reported March 14. Citing "willful and repeated" violations of its rules, the FCC recently levied the fine against the owner of WNFO 1430 AM Hilton Head. In a March 8 letter to the owner, the FCC said he failed to maintain an effective and secure fence around the base of the station's radio tower, to install Emergency Alert System equipment, and make available a complete public inspection file. The FCC's letter said its agents observed that a large section of the fence surrounding the tower had collapsed, and it appeared to have been in that condition for more than one day, a violation of agency code. The owner was fined \$8,000 for an apparent failure to install

and maintain equipment and broadcast logs for its use of an Emergency Alert System. He told the agents vandals had disconnected that equipment and removed the logs. Source: <http://www.islandpacket.com/2012/03/14/2000105/fcc-levies-25k-fine-on-hilton.html>

47. *March 14, WXIA 11 Atlanta* – (National) **Verizon data and voice outages in parts of Georgia.** Data and voice outages were reported on Verizon’s 3G network March 14, covering parts of Georgia, Alabama, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, and the Philadelphia area. According to a tweet from Verizon Support, “Our engineers are engaged in the Northeast to resolve report regarding iPhone data. We are working to restore it quickly.” A second tweet noted, “An alert was just released for the area of South Georgia and Alabama. We are working diligently to restore the connection.” According to a report from Wireless and Mobile News, systems provider Network Solutions indicated that data service was not expected to be restored until late March 14.
Source: <http://www.11alive.com/news/article/233074/3/Verizon-data-and-voice-outages-in-parts-of-Georgia>

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

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *March 15, Associated Press* – (Idaho) **Meridian trailer park evacuated after bomb threat.** Police said March 15 that they located what may be an explosive device that led to an evacuation of a trailer park near Meridian, Idaho. The Idaho Statesman reported that members of local bomb squads were working late March 14 to render the device safe. Authorities evacuated the Rose Circle Trailer Park, which has 30 to 40 homes, after they received information about a possible explosive device. Police also shut down two nearby intersections as part of the response. The FBI was assisting in the case.
Source:
<http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com/usatoday/article/38803343?odyssey=mod|news|well|text|Frontpage|s>
49. *March 14, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **City condemns hotel with meth lab.** The city of Jacksonville, Florida, condemned a hotel that was the site of a meth lab bust March 12. Environmental hygienists will have to conduct testing of the Homestead Studio Suites interior and determine the effects, if any, of meth production for the building to be reopened. According to the city’s municipal code enforcement, if any structure is proven to have a meth lab in it, the structure is condemned. Police arrested a man in connection with the production of meth at the hotel. Police said they found a black bag containing chemicals and equipment necessary to produce meth, including ammonium nitrate. Police and the state fire marshal evacuated the entire hotel after the meth lab was discovered. Guests who were staying at the hotel were relocated to different hotels throughout the city.

Source: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/City-condemns-hotel-with-meth-lab/-/475880/9292794/-/jqill3z/-/>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [22](#), [31](#), [38](#), and [51](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

50. *March 14, CNN* – (Washington, D.C.) **Washington Monument may be sinking, official says.** The Washington Monument appears to be sinking, according to preliminary data collected by the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), CNN reported March 14. NGS surveyors and the National Park Service are investigating whether the August 23, 2011 earthquake in Washington, D.C., caused the 555-foot stone obelisk to sink or shift. “Our initial observations show a difference of around 2 millimeters at several of the survey markers in the vicinity of the monument,” said a chief geodetic surveyor. The monument was last surveyed in 2009. Since its completion in 1884, data shows it has sunk nearly 2 inches. The monument, the tallest structure in the nation’s capital, has been closed since the magnitude 5.8 quake struck. The earthquake may be responsible for the monument to have sunk 1 millimeter, while the other millimeter may be a result of normal settling, according to the surveyor. NGS is expanding the scope of its study to determine whether other national monuments are slipping back into the swampland upon which the nation’s capital was built.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/03/14/us/washington-monument/?hpt=tr_c2

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

51. *March 15, Columbus Ledger-Enquirer* – (Alabama; Georgia) **Dam blasting for whitewater course to close 13th Street bridge, roads Wednesday afternoon.** Authorities on the Georgia and Alabama sides of the Chattahoochee River will be closing streets and clearing out pedestrians as crews blast loose rocks in the Eagle & Phenix dam to make way for a whitewater rafting course. The target time for the first explosive breach is 3 p.m. March 21, with a tentative window of 2-4 p.m., the Uptown Columbus, Georgia president said during a news conference, March 14. That could change, he warned, as a heavy rain upstream could create too much of a flow to blow the dam away that day. The immediate aim is to take out a 50-foot section of the stone dam on the river’s Alabama side, inserting charges into holes drilled from the top of the dam down. After breaching the Eagle & Phenix dam just south of 13th Street, crews will start moving upriver to breach the City Mills dam at 18th Street.

Source: <http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/2012/03/15/1972681/dam-blasting-to-close-bridge-roads.html>

For another story, see item [37](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)



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