



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

14 December 2012

Top Stories

- Federal investigators were looking into why no alarms sounded when a massive natural gas explosion in West Virginia sent flames as high as hilltops, engulfing homes and a large section of an Interstate for more than an hour. – *Associated Press* (See item [2](#))
- Two people responsible for running a massive identity theft ring in the South Bay area of San Diego were sentenced December 11 to prison. The pair ran a large-scale, sophisticated ID theft and mail theft ring out of their home where they stole the identities of more than 1,500 individuals. – *Examiner.com* (See item [6](#))
- Federal agents said December 12 they busted a lucrative prescription drug scheme. Court records indicate the scheme was so profitable that the doctor allegedly bragged he had stashed as much as \$20 million and shipped money to Lebanon inside a storage container. – *Detroit News* (See item [17](#))
- Twenty-nine county courthouses throughout Mississippi received bomb threats December 12. The threats were similar to those received in November in Nebraska, Oregon, Tennessee, and Washington. – *Biloxi Sun Herald* (See item [19](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *December 12, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Massachusetts) **Nantucket company faces penalty for violations of oil pollution prevention regulations.** Harbor Fuel Oil Corp., a fuel storage and distribution company on Nantucket Island in Massachusetts, faces penalties of potentially up to \$177,500 for alleged violations of the federal Clean Water Act, according to a December 12 release from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA recently filed a complaint against the company for failing to properly prepare for possible oil spills at its Nantucket facility in violation of federal Facility Response Plan (FRP) requirements. The FRP requirements are part of the federal Oil Pollution Prevention regulations issued under the Clean Water Act and require facilities that store and distribute oil to have in place, and be prepared to adequately implement, a contingency plan for containing and cleaning up oil spills. Federal law requires that facilities that have the potential for oil spills take every step possible to prevent oil discharges to the nation's rivers, lakes, and oceans through implementation of Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasure (SPCC) plans. Any facility with more than 1,320 gallons of above ground oil storage capacity and meeting certain other criteria must develop and implement SPCC plans to prevent and contain spills.
Source:
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/c3e80be74acee05b85257ad2006d6c15!OpenDocument>
2. *December 12, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Feds to probe why alarms failed in W.Va. explosion.** Federal investigators were looking into why no alarms sounded as a massive natural gas explosion sent flames as high as hilltops, engulfing homes and a large section of an Interstate for more than an hour. Investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board planned to visit Columbia Gas Transmission's Charleston, West Virginia control room to try to learn why the company's alarm system failed, an agency spokesman said December 12. It took Columbia approximately 64 minutes to

manually stop the flow of gas to the pipe about 15 miles away at Sissonville. The 20-inch transmission pipe exploded December 11, destroying four homes, cooking a section of Interstate 77, a major north-south commuting corridor that passes through the capital city, and creating a crater 17 feet deep. The pipeline is part of a network that primarily serves local utilities but also delivers gas to Georgia. NiSource said the explosion affected one specific location “and does not affect the safety or operation of any pipelines outside of that immediate area.” Nearly 15,000 miles of natural gas pipeline stretch across West Virginia. Federal regulators said there have been 20 “significant” pipeline incidents involving deaths, injuries, or major property damage in West Virginia in the past decade.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jDDvauqeUrnnXXTwFnROtFTKwW3A?docId=60da760d8b924b909a1521bd948b4153>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to report

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

3. *December 13, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Acura MDX and Honda Odyssey and Pilot interlock levers.** Honda announced December 13 the recall of 807,161 model year 2003 and 2004 Pilot and Odyssey and 2003 through 2006 Acura MDX passenger vehicles manufactured from November 26, 2001 through August 30, 2006. The interlock lever of the ignition switch may deform, which can allow the interlock function of a vehicle with an automatic transmission to be defeated. Removal of the ignition key when the gear selector of a vehicle with an automatic transmission has not been shifted to the park position can allow the vehicle to roll away, increasing the risk of a crash. Honda will notify owners and instruct them to take their vehicle to a Honda or Acura dealer. The dealer will install an updated shift interlock lever and, if necessary, replace the ignition switch.

Source: [http://www-](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V573000&summary=true&prod_id=203623&PrintVersion=YES)

[odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V573000&summary=true&prod_id=203623&PrintVersion=YES](http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V573000&summary=true&prod_id=203623&PrintVersion=YES)

4. *December 12, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **U.S. Labor Department’s OSHA cites Certifit Inc. with safety violations for exposing workers to electrical and fall**

hazards in San Antonio. The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration December 12 cited Salt Lake City-based Certifit Inc. with two repeat and one serious violation from an August follow-up inspection for continuing to expose workers to fall and electrical hazards at the company’s San Antonio work site. Proposed penalties totaled \$71,500. The initial January inspection, which resulted in \$12,000 in fines, determined that defective rolling ladders exposed workers to fall hazards, and the employer failed to ensure a competent, on-site person was trained and certified in first aid. The August inspection resulted in the same repeat violations. A serious violation was also cited for failing to ensure that an industrial fan was properly grounded.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23400

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

5. *December 13, Bloomberg News* – (New York; International) **Tiger Asia admits guilt in \$60 million court settlement.** Tiger Asia Management LLC, a New York City-based hedge fund, admitted illegally using inside information to trade Chinese bank stocks and agreed to criminal and civil settlements of more than \$60 million, Bloomberg News reported December 13. The fund’s manager entered the guilty plea for Tiger Asia in federal court in Newark, New Jersey, admitting it used material nonpublic information by selling short shares of Bank of China Ltd. and China Construction Bank Corp. Tiger Asia agreed to forfeit \$16.3 million to resolve the criminal case. Tiger Asia Management, its manager, Tiger Asia Partners LLC, and a former head trader also will pay \$44 million to settle a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission lawsuit filed December 12. Tiger Asia used inside information received through private placement offerings to engage in short selling of the two banks, the agency said. A U.S. District Judge placed Tiger Asia on probation for one year. He said the \$16.3 million represents the total illicit gain in the criminal case for the trades in December 2008 and January 2009.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-12-12/tiger-asia-management-hedge-fund-said-to-plan-guilty-plea>

6. *December 12, Examiner.com* – (California) **Big identity theft ring broken in San Diego.** Two people responsible for running a massive identity theft ring in the South Bay area of San Diego were sentenced December 11 to prison, according to a San Diego County district attorney. The two individuals were arrested in July. The pair were found guilty of various felonies, including conspiracy, ID theft, receiving stolen

property, and burglary. The pair ran a large-scale, sophisticated ID theft and mail theft ring out of their home where they stole the identities of more than 1,500 individuals. Much of the personal information was believed to have come from stolen real estate files. The prosecutor's press release stated that investigators found numerous items involved in the ID theft scheme at the defendants' home including computers, printers, dozens of stolen credit cards, card scanners and readers, lists describing how to make counterfeit IDs, mail, and stolen briefcases. Also found handwritten binders with detailed personal identifying information of the victims', credit card numbers, and credit information applied for by defendants in their names. "These individuals were sophisticated enough to know the local agency thresholds on the amount of money that would require an open investigation. Using this knowledge, they stayed under this dollar amount to avoid law enforcement detection," said the Chula Vista chief of police.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/article/big-identity-theft-ring-broken-san-diego>

7. *December 12, KBAK 29 Bakersfield* – (California) **Sisters, teen arrested for alleged card skimming at banks.** Four suspects were arrested December 11 for allegedly implanting debit card skimming devices at multiple California banks. Bakersfield police were called by Chase bank security, who said they found a card skimmer and unauthorized video camera at their ATM. Police used the bank's security cameras to get a description of one of the suspects, and detectives used that video to link that suspect to similar offenses in the San Bernardino area. While conducting surveillance in the area of the bank, detectives saw the suspect in a nearby grocery store. They followed him to a vehicle occupied by three more suspects, police said. All four suspects tried to run away when police made contact, but only one was successful. The two sisters and the man were arrested after detectives found additional skimming devices, computers, numerous counterfeit and stolen credit cards, narcotics, and two loaded and stolen handguns in their rental car. A 16-year-old suspect was also taken to juvenile hall.

Source: <http://www.bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/Sisters-teen-arrested-for-alleged-card-skimming-at-banks-183194791.html>

8. *December 12, Krebs on Security* – (International) **New findings lend credence to Project Blitzkrieg.** "Project Blitzkrieg," a brazen Underweb plan for hiring 100 botmasters to fuel a blaze of ebanking heists against 30 U.S. financial institutions in the Spring of 2013, was met with skepticism from some in the security community after news of the scheme came to light in October. But new research suggests the crooks who hatched the plan were serious and have painstakingly built up a formidable crime machine in preparation for the project. Krebs on Security reported December 12. McAfee said it tracked hundreds of infections from the Gozi Prinitalka trojan since Project Blitzkrieg was announced in early September. vorVzakone, the miscreant who posted the call-to-arms, also posted a number of screen shots that he said were taken from a working control panel for the botnet he was building. According to RSA Security, the botnet consisted of systems infected with Gozi Prinitalka, a closely-held, custom version of the powerful password-stealing Gozi banking trojan. In an analysis to be published December 13, McAfee said it was able to combine the data in those screen shots with malware detections on its own network to correlate both victim PCs

and the location of the control server. It found that the version of the Primumalka trojan used in the attack has two unique identifiers that identify what variant is being deployed on infected computers. McAfee said that all of the systems it identified from the screen shots posted by vorVzakone carried the Campaign ID 064004, which was discovered in the wild on April 14. A threat researcher at McAfee said the company's analysis indicates that Project Blitzkrieg is a credible threat to the financial industry and appears to be moving forward. The researcher posits that vorVzakone most likely intended to hire botmasters who already had access to substantial numbers of login credentials for the U.S. financial institutions targeted in the scheme. Several banks were indicated on a target list, including Bank of America, Capital One, and Suntrust, but many of the targets are in fact investment banks, such as American Funds, Ameritrade, eTrade, Fidelity, OptionsExpress, and Schwab.

Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2012/12/new-findings-lend-credence-to-project-blitzkrieg/>

9. *December 12, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Illinois) **Former owner of Rockford mortgage company charged in scheme to defraud investors.** The former owner, CEO, and president of Commercial Mortgage and Finance Co. in Rockford, Illinois, was indicted December 12 by a federal grand jury. The man was charged with 17 counts of mail fraud, one count of wire fraud, and one count of securities fraud, in connection with a scheme to defraud investors in Commercial Mortgage, a scheme which exposed investors to losses of \$20 million. According to the indictment, the man raised capital for his business by selling installments known as Promissory Notes and Certificates of Participation to investors. The indictment alleges that he concealed from the investors the fact that Commercial Mortgage had a negative net worth that steadily increased during the years that he owned the company. The indictment also charges that he concealed from the investors the fact that Commercial Mortgage was operated as a Ponzi scheme, with money received from the sales of new Promissory Notes being used to pay principal and interest owed on older Promissory Notes. According to the indictment, this fraud scheme took place from August 1997 through October 8, 2008. The indictment also charges that the man made specific false statements to several of the investors.

Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/former-owner-of-rockford-mortgage-company-charged-in-scheme-to-defraud-investors>

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Transportation Sector

10. *December 13, Bloomberg News* – (International) **Qatar Dreamliner grounded on fault echoing United jet's.** Qatar Airways Ltd. said a 787 jet just handed over by Boeing Co. developed a problem similar to one that forced a United Continental Holdings Inc. aircraft to make an emergency landing with a faulty generator, Bloomberg News reported December 13. Qatar Air's third 787 exhibited the failure on its delivery flight from the U.S., the Gulf carrier's chief executive officer said December 13 at London's Heathrow airport. The plane was grounded since December 9 and could remain so for at least 4 days while Boeing sends spares and a recovery

team. A United 787 was forced to land on December 4 following the failure of one of six generators. The composite-plastic model saves on fuel by not diverting air from the engines for power, instead using five times as much electricity as older jets. Chicago-based Boeing said it was cooperating with Qatar Air on the 787. “We are aware of the issue and are working with the customer at their request,” the manufacturer said.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-13/qatar-airways-boeing-787-grounded-with-same-fault-as-united-jet.html>

11. *December 12, Las Vegas Sun* – (Nevada) **Five injured in collision between school bus and car.** A collision between a school bus and a car in Las Vegas December 12 sent two students and three adults to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries, police said. The accident happened when a car traveling eastbound on Summerlin Parkway near Anasazi Drive moved into oncoming traffic and struck the left front of the bus, a Nevada Highway Patrol trooper said. Two high school students, the bus driver, a bus aid, and the driver of the car were transported to a medical center, police said. There were no other passengers on the bus, and no further information about the injuries was immediately available. The westbound travel lane of Summerlin Parkway was shut down for about 4 hours.
Source: <http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/dec/12/five-injured-collision-between-school-bus-and-car/>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

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Agriculture and Food Sector

12. *December 13, Casper Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Golden Corral restaurant leading suspect in Casper foodborne illness outbreak.** More than 50 reports of foodborne illness have been made to the Natrona County Health Department the week of December 10, according to the department’s director. Evidence points to the Golden Corral restaurant in east Casper, Wyoming, as the source of the outbreak, he said. Department officials conducted an on-site inspection at the restaurant December 12. There were sanitation inspections and interviews with employees and management. The Denver-based owner of the restaurant was on location throughout the day working with Health Department officials.
Source: http://trib.com/news/local/casper/golden-coral-restaurant-leading-suspect-in-casper-foodborne-illness-outbreak/article_1eb7c5c1-e60c-5595-b01d-7403ea51aa47.html

13. *December 12, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Pest infestation shuts down Golden Nugget cafe.** Health inspectors closed two eating areas in the the iconic Golden Nugget casino in downtown Las Vegas for numerous code violations including a pest infestation December 12. The health district cited the Carson Street Cafe with 27 demerits. Southern Nevada Health District inspectors ordered the closure of the 24-hour Carson Street Cafe and the employee dining area December 11.
Source: http://www.mynews4.com/news/story/Pest-infestation-shuts-down-Golden-Nugget-cafe/wf_byVVle0Kgug5ky0C3CQ.csp
14. *December 12, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Claudia’s Canine Cuisine voluntarily recalls it’s Dogcandy brand of Holiday Hound Cake (7.5 Oz.) and Blueberry Hound Cake (7.5 Oz) manufactured for, distributed, and sold in approximately 130 Petsmart stores because of the possibility of mold.** Claudia’s Canine Cuisine announced December 12 the voluntary recall of its 7.5-ounce bags of DogCandy Holiday Hound Cake and Blueberry Hound Cake because the cakes have the potential to become moldy. Mold was found on several cakes after they were delivered to the stores. Upon investigation, the company discovered that the cakes contained higher moisture content due to the product being packaged while still warm. The cakes were manufactured specifically for PetSmart Corporation and distributed to approximately 130 PetSmart stores in 36 States. The product in question is a single production run and packed in a 7.5-ounce paw print bag marked with a best by date of August 2015. The recalled items bore the UPC for the Blueberry Hound Cake as 692614010058 and the Holiday Hound Cake as 692614010041.
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm332004.htm>

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Water Sector

15. *December 13, Portsmouth Seacoast Online* – (New Hampshire) **Exeter receives final EPA discharge permit.** After months of speculation, Exeter, New Hampshire, received its final nitrogen discharge permit for its wastewater treatment plant, and the new limit on the permit was the most stringent possible. The permit issued December 12 by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) called for a limit of 3 milligrams per liter. Exeter now has to decide if it wants to remain in the Great Bay Municipal Coalition with Portsmouth, Dover, and Rochester and possibly fight the permit, or enter into an administrative order of consent with the EPA and eventually build a new wastewater treatment plant designed to meet the limit of 3 mg/l. The EPA indicated in its prepared statement that the door has been left open for compromise. If Exeter decides to cut a deal with the EPA, the town has potentially up to 15 years before it would have to build and operate additional treatment facilities to bring the discharge levels down to 3 mg/l. In the meantime, the town was asked to get down to a limit of 8 mg/l in the next 5 years and then will be allowed up to another 5 years for additional study to see if the “science the EPA is using to determine these levels is correct” and if it is necessary to get down to a limit of 3 mg/l. Exeter previously estimated it would cost \$36 million to build a new plant to meet a limit of 3 mg/l and

\$20 million to build one to meet the less stringent level of 8 mg/l.

Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20121213-NEWS-212130413>

16. *December 13, North County Times* – (California) **Company fined for illegal water discharge.** The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board December 12 imposed \$138,000 in penalties on Ariel Suites LP, the owners of a San Diego high-rise, for illegally discharging polluted water into the bay earlier this year. The penalty addresses 47 water discharge violations that occurred during construction between February and July. Excavation of the building's foundation released groundwater, the water board stated. To remove the water, Ariel Suites received a water board permit to discharge clean groundwater into San Diego Bay through storm water drains. However the company owner said a subcontractor failed to adequately filter the discharge. Water monitoring records from May show water discharges from Ariel Suites contained copper and nickel at two to three times legal limits, and tetrachloroethylene, an industrial solvent, at six times allowable levels. The polluted water affected an area of San Diego Bay that supports recreation, wildlife, and commercial uses.

Source: http://www.nctimes.com/company-fined-for-illegal-water-discharge/article_ac020245-4357-553d-a3ef-cb6eadcb75e6.html

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

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

17. *December 13, Detroit News* – (Michigan) **Medical offices raided.** Federal agents said December 12 they busted a lucrative prescription drug scheme allegedly headed by the former Detroit Metropolitan Airport CEO's brother, the latest scandal to engulf the family. A series of raids by FBI and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents across Oakland and Macomb counties played out as the FBI continued a wide-ranging separate corruption probe of the former Detroit Metropolitan Airport CEO and Wayne County government. Her brother is accused of writing prescriptions to phony patients for powerful pain medication, billing for treatments to dead patients, and pocketing \$50,000 a month in a scheme involving his Warren-based offices, Midwest Family Practice. He was charged with two felonies, appeared in federal court, and was released on \$10,000 bond. Court records indicate the scheme was so profitable that the doctor allegedly bragged he had stashed as much as \$20 million, including more than \$1 million cash at his Royal Oak home, and shipped money to Lebanon inside a storage container. A second man was also charged. Both face charges of unlawful distribution of a controlled substance and health care fraud conspiracy. The federal probe dates to 2011.

Source:

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121213/METRO01/212130374/Medical-offices-raided-Mullin-s-brother-held?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

18. *December 12, Becker's Hospital Review* – (Florida) **Patient medical records found in dumpster in Florida.** Becker's Hospital Review reported that hundreds of patient

medical records were found in a dumpster in a Fort Myers, Florida strip mall December 11, according to a Fox 4 News report. An individual was looking through a dumpster for cardboard boxes to help him move when he stumbled upon what appeared to be patient medical records. He called the local Fox television station, and a reporter called the police. According to the report, the medical records allegedly belong to Luxor Industries, a physician group in Fort Myers. The medical records had names, addresses, phone numbers, and Social Security numbers. Luxor Industries was raided by State agents in July. According to the report, State agents released few details on that raid. Source: <http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/patient-medical-records-found-in-dumpster-in-florida.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

19. *December 13, Biloxi Sun Herald* – (Mississippi) **Bomb threats called in to 29 county courthouses in Mississippi.** Twenty-nine county courthouses throughout Mississippi received bomb threats December 12. Officials in the coastal counties said all south Mississippi courthouses have been cleared for re-admittance December 13. The executive director of the Mississippi office of the Department of Homeland Security said 31 total threats were received in 29 counties. The threats were similar to those received in November in Nebraska, Oregon, Tennessee, and Washington. None of those threats were credible. Officials said the calls came in to the circuit clerk's offices. A George County official described the voice as sounding recorded and said the caller's number was blocked. The executive director said Homeland Security is looking for the person responsible for the calls. Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/2012/12/12/4355810/bomb-threats-called-in-to-29-county.html>
20. *December 13, Augusta Chronicle* – (Georgia) **UGA hacker suspect kills self.** The Augusta Chronicle reported December 13 that authorities said the former University of Georgia student under investigation for allegedly hacking into the school's computerized personnel records system committed suicide November 7. An investigation into the security breach was ongoing when the suspect was found dead at his home in Athens, Georgia. The intrusion to the computer system was discovered in October, but UGA police just recently learned about the former student's death, and released his name and alleged involvement accessing the personnel records of at least 8,500 current and former UGA employees. There is no evidence that the compromised data, which included employees' names, Social Security numbers, and other personal information, were used to commit additional crimes. The computer trespass was reported to UGA police October 5 by Enterprise Information Technology Services, the university's central IT organization for students, faculty, and staff. The employee files involved in the security breach were found under the control of the former student during the ensuing forensic evaluation of evidence obtained during the course of the investigation, police said. Authorities said there is no indication that any of the information left his control after he took unlawful possession of it. The former student attended classes at UGA between 2005 and 2007.

Source: <http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/crime-courts/2012-12-13/uga-hacker-suspect-kills-self>

21. *December 12, KIII 3 Corpus Christi* – (Texas) **Police believe school vandalism, burglary may be gang related.** An investigation was underway in Beeville, Texas, after vandals broke into a middle school December 11 and caused more than \$100,000 worth of damage. Police said the vandals stole money and valuable electronics, and they believe the break-in was gang related. Authorities believe the vandals may have used rocks to smash a classroom window to enter the facility. Police said the vandals rummaged through classroom drawers and broke into snack vending machines and cash registers in search of money. The vandals also took at least 13 laptops. “In years past, we’ve had some schools that have been broken into, but not to this magnitude,” said an official of the Beeville Police Department. Surveillance cameras captured four suspects wearing masks. Police said the suspects flashed gang signs at the security cameras.
Source: <http://www.kiiitv.com/story/20330556/police-believe-school-vandalism-burglary-may-be-gang-related>

For another story, see item [11](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

22. *December 12, Walla Walla Union-Bulletin* – (Washington) **Three officers hurt in riot at prison.** Three correctional officers were taken to a local hospital December 11 after a riot at the Washington State Penitentiary in Walla Walla, Washington, according to prison officials. A public information officer for the penitentiary said in a news release the assault started in the prison’s West Complex when “multiple offenders” assaulted officers in one of the common areas. The West Complex, a close-custody unit, houses roughly 800 inmates. “Other staff members quickly responded and secured the unit within minutes,” she stated, adding two of the officers were treated and released. Nine inmates were placed in segregation, according to the public information officer, and the investigation was turned over to the Walla Walla Police Department. The West Complex’s four units were on lockdown.
Source: <http://union-bulletin.com/news/2012/dec/12/three-officers-hurt-in-riot-at-prison/>

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Information Technology Sector

23. *December 13, Softpedia* – (International) **Changeup malware alert: You have received a secure message.** Security firms have recently started warning users about a new variant of the Changeup malware. In order to spread this malicious element, cybercriminals have launched a new spam campaign. When they described the attack, researchers from Symantec revealed that the fake notifications, entitled “You have received a secure message,” apparently originating from financial institutions, were

used. According to Hoax Slayer, there are several variants of these emails making the rounds. Some of them claim to come from Bank of America or Australia's Commonwealth Bank, while others purport to come from networking provider Cisco. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Changeup-Malware-Alert-You-Have-Received-a-Secure-Message-314433.shtml>

24. *December 12, Network World* – (International) **IE exploit can track mouse cursor - even when you're not in IE.** A vulnerability affecting Internet Explorer versions 6 through 10 could make it possible for a hacker to monitor the movements of a user's mouse, even if the browser window is minimized. According to Web analytics firm Spider.io, this means that passwords and PINs could be captured by a canny thief if they are typed on a virtual (on-screen) keyboard. Additionally, it is already being exploited by two display advertising networks, the company said, though it did not name them in its statement. "As long as the page with the exploitative advertiser's ad stays open - even if you push the page to a background tab or, indeed, even if you minimize Internet Explorer - your mouse cursor can be tracked across your entire display," Spider.io said. The company added that, while the problem has been acknowledged by the Microsoft Security Research Center, there are apparently no immediate plans for a patch. Spider.io also published the technical details of the exploit, which involves the browser's global Event object. Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2012/121212-microsoft-ie-exploit-265036.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

25. *December 12, Gaithersburg Gazette* – (Maryland) **Verizon accident leaves some Poolesville residents without phone, Internet service.** Poolesville, Maryland residents lost Internet and phone service December 11. The cause, according to a Verizon spokesperson, was a construction accident. "A contractor who was doing some work for us damaged one of our copper cables," he said. The contractor was doing prep work in advance of the work the company needs to do to install FiOS in the area. By December 12 service was still not restored. Source: <http://www.gazette.net/article/20121212/NEWS/712129356/1022/verizon-accident-leaves-some-poolesville-residents-without-phone&template=gazette>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

26. *December 12, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **4 shot near Kansas City bar; 1 critical injury.** Kansas City, Missouri police said four people were shot outside a bar, leaving one with critical injuries. The shooting occurred as the group stood outside Champ's Lounge & Grill in east Kansas City December 11. Police said a man fired at the group, hitting a total of four victims. One victim was critically injured and the others suffered non-life-threatening injuries. Two were driven to a hospital.
Source: <http://www.komu.com/news/4-shot-near-kansas-city-bar-1-critical-injuries/>
27. *December 12, Manchester Union Leader* – (New Hampshire) **Dozens evacuated during fire at Nashua apartment complex.** Between 50 and 75 occupants of a three-story apartment building were evacuated December 12 when a fire broke out at Boulder Park Apartments in Nashua, New Hampshire. Fire officials said the fire, which began in the ceiling of a second-floor bathroom, was likely caused by an electrical malfunction. The occupant of apartment 635 was awake and noticed the fire, according to the deputy fire chief. When fire crews arrived on the scene, smoke was visible from the outside of the building. Firefighters were able to extinguish the blaze quickly, confining it to the bathroom. People were still inside the building when firefighters arrived, and several occupants were assisted from the apartment complex through heavy smoke conditions, according to fire officials. The people who were evacuated were permitted back into their residences December 12.
Source: <http://www.unionleader.com/article/20121212/NEWS07/121219722>
28. *December 12, KWKT 44 Waco* – (Texas) **Belton church suffers severe damage during midnight mass service.** Clean-up and repairs were underway for a Belton, Texas church that was burned in a fire December 12. The fire at the Catholic church was reported by a witness just 20 minutes into a midnight mass service. Fire crews arrived within 3 minutes and battled the blaze for about 3 hours. Half of the church was damaged. The church had additions attached to an original structure, which made it difficult to locate the fire, the Belton fire chief said. The original building suffered the most damage, and repairs were expected to be costly.
Source: <http://www.kwkt.com/top-story/belton-church-suffers-severe-damage-during-midnight-mass-service>
29. *December 12, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Police say Oregon mall shooter used stolen rifle in attack.** The gunman who killed two people and himself in a shooting rampage at a Portland, Oregon mall used a stolen rifle from someone he knew, authorities said December 12. The gunman armed himself with an AR-15 semiautomatic rifle and had several fully loaded magazines when he arrived at a the mall December 11, said the Clackamas County sheriff. The sheriff said the rifle jammed during the attack, but he managed to get the weapon working again. The gunman wore a hockey-style face mask, parked his personal vehicle in front of the second-floor entrance to Macy's, and walked briskly through the store, into the mall, and began firing randomly, police said. He then fled along a mall corridor and into a back hallway, down stairs, and into a corner where police found him dead from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot.

Source: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_22179373/police-say-oregon-mall-shooter-used-stolen-rifle

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

30. *December 13, NY1 New York City* – (New York) **Brooklyn cemetery uprooted by Sandy.** The Green-Wood Cemetery in New York City, a National Historic Landmark, was damaged by Hurricane Sandy's fierce winds, NY1 New York City reported December 12. "Since October 29 we have been clearing roads, opening the roads up," said the grounds superintendent. "About 300 trees were either completely lost or badly damaged, as were at least 210 monuments." Many monuments could not weather the storm, and damages were estimated to be at least \$500,000. With the NY Restoration Project for help, cemetery officials said they would plant new trees where the old ones stood.

Source: http://brooklyn.ny1.com/content/top_stories/173868/brooklyn-cemetery-uprooted-by-sandy

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Dams Sector

31. *December 13, Portsmouth Daily Times* – (Ohio) **Churn Creek Lake dam repairs complete.** According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' (ODNR) Division of Forestry, repairs to the Churn Creek Lake dam at Shawnee Forest were successfully completed, the Portsmouth Daily Times reported December 13. The State forester and chief of ODNR's Division of Forestry said the Shawnee State Forest staff, with assistance from the ODNR Division of Engineering, repaired the dam to ensure that it once again functioned effectively. "Money for the repairs was supplied through Shawnee State Forest's annual operating budget, which is supported through timber sale revenue," he said. A leak had developed near the spillway in the Churn Creek Lake dam. Repairs involved lowering the water level, excavating a portion of the earthen dam that was leaking, and subsequently repacking the soil into the excavated dam. Churn Creek Lake is one of five small lakes located in Shawnee State Forest.

Source: <http://portsmouth-dailytimes.com/bookmark/21112190-Churn-Creek-Lake-dam-repairs-complete>

32. *December 12, Chester Chronicle Newspaper* – (New York) **Storm-damaged dam is repaired.** Repair work on the dam at the Goshen Village Reservoir in New York, damaged during the storms of 2011, was completed, the Chester Chronicle reported December 12. Lanc and Tully Engineering of Campbell Hall inspected the completed repairs. The heavy rains of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee weakened the masonry and washed out dirt, compromising the effectiveness of the dam. An enormous volume of water rushed through the spillway so fast, it washed out the sides. The spillway was left with a giant scour about 25 feet deep. Repairs were needed to maintain the smooth flow of excess water from the reservoir. An engineer with Lanc

and Tully said another significant overflow would have caused disturbance downstream and at the base of the dam. The repairs cost \$28,148. The repair costs fell under the budget's water fund.

Source:

<http://chroniclenewspaper.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20121212/NEWS01/121219975/Storm-damaged-dam-is-repaired>

33. *December 12, Northwest Indiana Times* – (Indiana) **Construction problems on just-completed levee provide food for discussion.** Problems with construction of a newly completed flood protection levee became an issue at the December 11 meeting of the Little Calumet River Basin Development Commission at Munster Town Hall in Indiana. Those problems included cracking concrete and concrete falling off the face of the levee wall, according to inspection reports provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. There was also a tilt in a levee wall. Commissioners expressed dissatisfaction with the condition of the levee in stages 7 and 8 that runs from the Northcote Avenue bridge to the State line. The commission executive director told the panel that officials in Munster and Hammond do not believe their municipalities should have to repair those problems or pay for those repairs. The Corps project manager said during her presentation that the commission needs to pinpoint those problems and send information to the Corps' Chicago District office.

Source: http://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/munster/construction-problems-on-just-completed-levee-provide-food-for-discussion/article_369843ca-4c24-5d86-ae7e-e38dc76a10.html

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