



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

19 December 2012

Top Stories

- About 22,000 people across Amador and Calaveras counties in California lost electricity due to a power outage, according to a Pacific Gas & Electric Co. spokeswoman. – *Associated Press* (See item [1](#))
- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission stated that a Japanese company did not confirm that tubes being used in a generator mock-up matched specifications for tubing fixed in generators at a California nuclear power plant. – *Associated Press* (See item [2](#))
- A “verified” vendor on one of the most active underground online fraud forums is selling and shipping pre-hacked wireless Verifone point-of-sale devices that record customers’ card data and PINs. – *Krebs on Security* (See item [5](#))
- After two spills this year released an approximate 26 million gallons in untreated sewage into local waterways, Georgia environmental regulators fined the city of Atlanta \$113,000 for failing to detect broken pipes. – *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* (See item [20](#))
- The owner of Health Care Solutions Network Inc. plead guilty December 17 for fraudulently billing Medicare and the Florida Medicaid program approximately \$28 million over a span of 8 years. – *U.S. Department of Justice* (See item [22](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *December 17, Associated Press* – (California) **Thousands in Sierra foothills without power.** About 22,000 people across Amador and Calaveras counties in California lost electricity due to a power outage, according to a Pacific Gas & Electric Co. spokeswoman.
Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/2012/12/17/3104865/thousands-in-sierra-foothills.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

2. *December 18, Associated Press* – (California; International) **Feds: Mitsubishi using wrong test equipment for San Onofre nuclear plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission stated that a Japanese company did not confirm that tubes being used in a generator mock-up matched specifications for tubing fixed in generators at a nuclear power plant in California.
Source: <http://www.scpr.org/news/2012/12/18/35293/feds-mitsubishi-using-wrong-test-equipment-flawed/>
3. *December 16, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Unexpected shutdown reported at US nuclear plant.** An energy company was determining why their Susquehanna nuclear power plant reactor shut down unexpectedly during routine testing, although

the company said the reactor was stable and safe.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/free/20121216unexpected-shutdown-reported-nuclear-plant.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

4. *December 18, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **LG recalls top-loading washing machines due to risk of injury.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall of about 457,000 LG Electronics Top-Loading Washing Machines due to excessive shaking that poses a risk of injury or property damage.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml13/13073.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

5. *December 18, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Point-of-Sale skimmers: No charge...yet.** A “verified” vendor on one of the most active underground online fraud forums is selling and shipping pre-hacked wireless Verifone point-of-sale devices that record customers’ card data and PINs.

Source: <http://m.krebsonsecurity.com/2012/12/point-of-sale-skimmers-no-charge-yet/>

6. *December 18, Bloomberg News* – (New York) **Hedge fund managers convicted of insider-trading scheme.** A federal jury in New York found a Level Global Investors LP co-founder and a former Diamondback Capital Management LLC portfolio manager guilty of securities fraud and conspiracy for insider trading which netted the two more than \$72 million.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-12-17/hedge-fund-managers-convicted-of-insider-trading.html>

7. *December 17, IDG News Service* – (International) **Improved Carberp malware targets U.S. banks.** The creators of the Carberp banking trojan are now selling an upgraded version of the malware and custom scripts that allow the trojan to target U.S. online banking customers, researchers from Group-IB reported.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9234809/Improved_Carberp_malware_targets_U.S._banks

8. *December 17, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (International) **SEC charges Germany-based Allianz SE with FCPA violations.** Allianz SE, a German insurance and asset management company, settled to pay over \$12.3 million in U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) charges after the SEC claimed they violated provisions of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.
Source: <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-266.htm>

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Transportation Sector

9. *December 18, Reuters* – (National) **United confirms electrical problem on second 787 in its fleet.** Another 787 Dreamliner, the third in December, experienced electrical problems due to the electrical distribution panel, United Airlines and Boeing Co. stated.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/18/uk-boeing-787-united-idUSLNE8BH00320121218>
10. *December 18, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (New Jersey) **Paulsboro rail bridge went quickly back into operation.** The Federal Railroad Administration continued operations on the Conrail Bridge in Paulsboro. Two tests runs were performed to complete an inspection once the four remaining derailed cars were removed from Mantua Creek.
Source:
http://www.philly.com/philly/news/new_jersey/20121218_Paulsboro_rail_bridge_went_quickly_back_into_operation.html
11. *December 18, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Winter muscles in early with strong winds, snow, slides.** Winter weather impacted traffic on Interstate 5 in Everett, Washington, while a mudslide derailed a freight train.
Source: http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2019925553_weather18m.html
12. *December 18, WPVI 6 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Teen charged in SEPTA El shooting; held on \$5M bail.** Police charged a suspect with attempted murder after a shooting on the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority El train and set bail at \$5 million. Police were still looking for the alleged gunman, who injured two passengers the week of December 10.
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=8924551>
13. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Student arrested after weapon parts taken on bus.** A Bullitt County High School student was arrested and charged by police with terroristic threatening, wanton endangerment, and menacing after bringing air gun parts onto a school bus.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/crime/article/Student-arrested-after-weapon-parts-taken-on-bus-4127183.php>
14. *December 17, Examiner.com* – (Tennessee) **Another handgun found at McGhee Tyson Airport.** A .38 caliber pistol was discovered in a passenger's carry-on luggage

at McGhee Tyson Airport. The Transportation Security Administration has recovered 16 firearms at the airport's checkpoints in 2012.

Source: <http://www.examiner.com/article/another-handgun-found-at-mcghee-tyson-airport>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

15. *December 17, KREX 5 Grand Junction* – (Colorado) **Authorities warn mailbox thefts on the rise.** Colorado's Grand Junction Police Department reported an increase in mail theft and identity fraud, and warned residents to take additional precautions. Seven instances of mail theft were recently reported in the area, costing victims \$5,000.
Source: <http://www.krextv.com/news/around-the-region/Authorities-Warn-Mailbox-Thefts-on-the-Rise-183826891.html>
16. *December 17, KOAA 5 Pueblo* – (Colorado) **Five explosives, two scenes keep police busy.** Four chemical bottle bombs and one bomb with a fuse were found in mailboxes in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Only two of the four detonated. Two people were arrested.
Source: <http://www.koaa.com/news/five-explosives-two-scenes-keep-police-busy/>
17. *December 17, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Missouri) **US Labor Department's OSHA cites US Postal Service for worker's heat-related death in Independence, Mo.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited the U.S. Postal Service Truman Station in Independence, Missouri, with a willful violation for failing to protect employees working in excessive heat after a mail carrier developed heat-related illness symptoms in July 2011.
Source:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23442

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *December 17, Associated Press* – (California) **Massive Napa do-over prompts grape plant shortage.** Napa Valley commercial nurseries practices for the past 30 years created a serious shortage of grapevine root stock. Vine replacement by growers has created a back log of orders for the next season.
Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/us/article/Massive-Napa-do-over-prompts-grape-plant-shortage-4122457.php>

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Water Sector

19. *December 18, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **48-inch water main ruptures.** A water main break forced 39 victims to evacuate a Tulsa day-care center December 17. Police closed an intersection while over 25 utility workers responded to repair the broken 48-inch transmission waterline.
Source: http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20121218_11_A11_CUTLIN678190
20. *December 17, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Atlanta faces \$113,000 State fine for two massive sewage spills.** After two spills this year released an approximate 26 million gallons in untreated sewage into local waterways, Georgia environmental regulators fined the city of Atlanta \$113,000 for failing to detect broken pipes.
Source: <http://www.ajc.com/news/news/local/atlanta-faces-113000-state-fine-for-two-massive-se/nTYZp/>
21. *December 17, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (California) **EPA proposes new pollution reduction plans for Malibu Creek and the Ventura River.** Two pollution reduction plans that would improve the water quality and aquatic environment in the Malibu Creek and Lagoon and the Ventura River were proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency the week of December 17.
Source: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/f4b1ab71820d69d485257ad70069582d!OpenDocument>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

22. *December 18, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Florida) **Leader of \$63 million mental health fraud scheme pleads guilty in Miami.** The owner of Health Care Solutions Network Inc. plead guilty December 17 for fraudulently billing Medicare and the Florida Medicaid program approximately \$28 million over a span of 8 years.
Source: <http://www.enewspf.com/latest-news/police-reports/39220-leader-of-63-million-mental-health-fraud-scheme-pleads-guilty-in-miami.html>
23. *December 18, Yakima Herald Republic* – (Washington) **Local podiatrist convicted of health care fraud.** A Yakima, Washington podiatrist was found guilty of 32 counts of health care fraud. He stole \$642,000 from Medicare, \$123,000 from Washington State Medicaid, and \$240 from Health Management Associates by submitting exaggerated reimbursement records to Medicare and Medicaid from 2006 to 2007.
Source: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/home/585736-8/local-podiatrist-convicted-of-health-care-fraud>
24. *December 17, WXMI 17 Grand Rapids* – (Michigan) **Victims identified in Grand Rapids murder-suicide.** A man shot and killed two women, then shot himself in the

parking lot of a counseling center December 17, according to the Grand Rapids Police Department.

Source: <http://fox17online.com/news/stories/three-die-in-grand-rapids-murder-suicide/>

25. *December 17, WVEC 13 Hampton* – (Virginia) **Suffolk woman sentenced for Medicaid fraud.** A Suffolk, Virginia woman who pleaded guilty for altering records to conceal Medicaid fraud was sentenced December 17 to ten months in prison.
Source: <http://www.wvec.com/news/Suffolk-woman-sentenced-for-Medicaid-fraud-183829971.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

26. *December 18, WJON 1240 AM St. Cloud* – (Minnesota) **Paynesville High School evacuated due to carbon monoxide poisoning.** The Paynesville Area Secondary school closed early December 18 after district officials reported “air quality issues” due to carbon monoxide. There were reports December 17 and 18 of some students vomiting and fainting.
Source: <http://wjon.com/paynesville-high-school-evacuated-due-to-carbon-monoxide-poisoning/>
27. *December 17, The Times Herald* – (Michigan) **Cass City Public Schools closed after gun threat.** A Cass City Public Schools superintendent was notified of a possible gun threat to a school employee and the Cass City Schools, which prompted the closure of school for the rest of the calendar year.
Source: <http://www.thetimesherald.com/viewart/20121217/NEWS01/121217004/Cass-City-Public-Schools-closed-after-gun-threat>

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

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Kansas man who killed 2 cops dies.** A man who killed two police officers who were investigating possible drug activity in a Topeka grocery store parking lot December 16 was killed during an armed standoff, authorities said December 17.
Source: <http://news.yahoo.com/authorities-kansas-man-killed-2-cops-dies-210433693.html>
29. *December 18, Montgomery Advertiser* – (Alabama) **Ex-state employee gets 50 months in federal prison for ID theft scheme.** A former Alabama Department of Corrections employee who stole personal identification information from a State agency and delivered the records to a co-conspirator was sentenced to nearly 4 years in prison and has \$113,000 to pay in compensation.

Source:

http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20121218/NEWS02/312170020/Ex-state-employee-gets-50-months-in-federal-prison-for-ID-theft-scheme?nclick_check=1

30. *December 17, Los Angeles Daily News* – (California) **Progress on communications system to allow county’s emergency workers to talk to each other.** In January 2013, a joint powers authority will receive bids for the initial phase of a communications system that will allow Los Angeles County’s first and second responders to communicate with each other for the first time.
Source: http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_22211719/progress-communications-system-allow-countys-emergency-workers-talk
31. *December 17, Reuters* – (Massachusetts) **Massachusetts drug lab chemist charged with falsifying evidence.** A former State crime lab chemist was indicted by a Massachusetts grand jury on 24 additional charges tied to allegations she forged evidence while managing over 60,000 drug samples connected to over 34,000 cases.
Source: <http://news.yahoo.com/massachusetts-drug-lab-chemist-charged-falsifying-evidence-233311761.html>
32. *December 17, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **3 escape from Calloway County Jail.** Kentucky State Police said three inmates escaped from the Calloway County Jail in Murray by getting over the barbed wire fence December 16.
Source: <http://www.fortmilltimes.com/2012/12/17/2389245/3-escape-from-calloway-county.html>
33. *December 17, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Kentucky) **Ex-police chief sentenced on fraud, theft charges.** After stealing over \$115,000 from the police department, the former Highland Heights police chief received a sentence of almost 4 years in prison and was ordered to pay back the stolen money.
Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/news/local-news/news-northern-kentucky/Ex-police-chief-sentenced-on-fraud-theft-charges/-/13608792/17803342/-/11wfh5z/-/index.html>
34. *December 16, Browardnetonline.com* – (Florida) **Hialeah cop and wife charged with dealing in firearms.** A Hialeah, Florida cop and his wife were charged with one count of dealing in firearms without a federal firearms license. In addition, the cop was charged with making a material false statement in connection with the crime.
Source: <http://browardnetonline.com/2012/12/hialeah-police-officer-and-wife-charged-with-dealing-in-firearms/>
35. *December 15, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Suspect in Mo. deputy shooting death apprehended.** Authorities said a sheriff’s deputy was shot and killed in Mineral Point while emergency workers loaded an unconscious person into an ambulance.
Source: <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2012/12/15/3224125/suspect-in-mo-deputy-shooting.html>

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Information Technology Sector

36. *December 18, Help Net Security* – (International) **Android botnet spreads SMS spam.** Security researchers detected widespread SMS spam campaigns designed to infect users’ devices and draw them into a mobile botnet so send out more spam. Researchers from Lookout named the trojan “SpamSoldier” and warned that it could results in thousands of spam SMS messages on the network level.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2363
37. *December 17, Threatpost* – (International) **WordPress pingback vulnerability could lead to DDoS attacks.** A pingback vulnerability in the popular WordPress blogging platform could be exploited for use in distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks and to leak information, according to Acunetix. The vulnerability can be exploited through WordPress’s XMLRPC API, where attackers could reconfigure internal routers and use the hosts to participate in DDoS attacks.
Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/wordpress-pingback-vulnerability-could-lead-ddos-attacks-121712

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>

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Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

38. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Dozen businesses destroyed in strip mall fire.** A fire potentially caused millions in damages and closed several business at the Heights Plaza strip mall in Harrison Township, Pennsylvania.
Source: <http://tribune-democrat.com/latestnews/x213151111/Dozen-businesses-destroyed-in-strip-mall-fire>
39. *December 18, Arizona Daily Star* – (Arizona) **Blaze destroys part of strip mall.** Four business spaces were destroyed in a Tucson strip-mall fire December 17 that caused the roof to collapse in several places.
Source: http://azstarnet.com/news/local/crime/blaze-destroys-part-of-strip-mall/article_c69b6bab-4db7-583b-8d45-593b6eb37dd7.html

40. *December 18, WVTM 13 Birmingham* – (Alabama) **Fire officials investigating suspicious church fire in Jasper.** Alabama’s State fire marshal and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives investigated a fire at the Jasper Alliance Church once preliminary findings indicated arson may have taken place.
Source: <http://www2.alabamas13.com/news/2012/dec/18/fire-officials-investigating-suspicious-church-fir-ar-5191558/>
41. *December 18, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Propane tank explosion damages Amherst shopping center, 1 firefighter injured.** An explosion at a shopping center in Amherst injured a firefighter and damaged six businesses after two above-ground propane tanks caught fire and one exploded. The explosion also cut off power to Sweet Briar College for a short time.
Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/318ed70431854fe4b8600c7c90e0af3d/VA--Shopping-Center-Explosion>
42. *December 18, KNSD 7 San Diego* – (California) **California mall shooting suspect fired gun to relieve stress: cops.** A suspect accused of firing 50 rounds from his pistol in a crowded Newport Beach mall parking lot December 14 told police officers he was depressed over family issues and did not intend to shoot anyone.
Source: <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/national-international/NATL-LA-Calif-Mall-Shooting-Suspect-Fired-Gun-to-Relieve-Stress-Cops-183922431.html>
43. *December 18, Newark Star Ledger; Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Firefighters battling large fire at Elizabeth auto body shop.** A 7-alarm fire in Elizabeth at commercial facility that is home to an auto and express trailer repair shop required companies from Union County, Newark, and the New York City Fire Department to fight.
Source: http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2012/12/firefighters_battling_large_fi.html
44. *December 17, Redding Record Searchlight* – (California) **Bomb squad detonates suspected explosive in Shasta Lake.** The sheriff’s department shut down part of Cascade Boulevard in California’s Shasta Lake while a police bomb squad detonated what officials believed was nitroglycerin found in a local antique shop.
Source: <http://www.redding.com/news/2012/dec/17/possible-explosive-reported-shasta-lake/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

45. *December 18, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Green Mountain National Forest closes trail near Mount Snow.** Deerfield Ridge Trail in Vermont’s Green Mountain National Forest was closed to snowmobiles after U.S. Forest Service officials discovered a “significant, unauthorized excavation” in the area. A portion of the forest was also closed in connection with the excavation.
Source: <http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20121218/NEWS02/712189835>

46. *December 17, U.S. Department of Justice* – (California) **Man found guilty for large-scale marijuana production in Sequoia National Forest.** A federal court sentenced a man in connection with a large marijuana growing operation in California's Sequoia National Forest.
Source: http://www.justice.gov/usao/cae/news/docs/2012/12-2012/12-17-12Marijuana_dispos.html

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Dams Sector

47. *December 18, Orleans Cape Codder* – (Massachusetts) **Mill Pond gets a brand new dam.** As part of the storm water control project for the Stoney Brook Valley, the construction of a new dam at Lower Mill Pond in Brewster, Massachusetts, will cost \$387,450. The project will receive matching federal funding.
Source: <http://www.wickedlocal.com/brewster/news/x1781244716/Mill-Pond-gets-a-brand-new-dam#axzz2FJc2dfAx>
48. *December 18, Beaver Dam Daily Citizen* – (Wisconsin) **Beaver Dam has to redo gates for dam.** A spokesman from Kunkel Engineering stated \$18,750 would cover the additional engineering costs to repair the flood gates at Beaver Dam that were installed in 2011. The gates were not up to the standards required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
Source: http://www.wiscnews.com/bdc/news/local/article_380b0aca-48d9-11e2-88e2-001a4bcf887a.html
49. *December 17, Wayne Independent* – (Pennsylvania) **Dam woes cause lowering of pond; aging bridge also has been closed.** After a dam structure did not meet Pennsylvania dam safety standards, a bridge and the dam were deemed unsafe and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission announced it would lower the Lower Woods Pond.
Source:
<http://www.wayneindependent.com/article/20121217/NEWS/121219872/1001/NEWS>

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Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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Contact Information

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@hq.dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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