



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

25 January 2013

Top Stories

- Four of New Jersey's electric utility companies were cited by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities January 24 and told to improve their communications systems and training after an investigation into the Hurricane Irene response in 2011. – *Bridgewater Courier-News* (See item [1](#))
- Federal prosecutors announced January 11 that two employees from an Albany machine product firm pleaded guilty to bribing a public official and over charging the U.S Department of Defense more than \$900,000. – *ATLAW* (See item [3](#))
- The Russian national who developed and distributed the Gozi banking malware was charged along with two co-conspirators with various counts of fraud and unauthorized access related to their malware's infection of over a million computers to obtain customers' banking credentials. – *Wired.com* (See item [7](#))
- Cenex Harvest States Inc. pleaded guilty and was fined \$500,000 for the improper release of chemicals and exposing hundreds of cattle to hazardous smoke during a Great Falls fire in 2009. – *Associated Press* (See item [14](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *January 23, Bridgewater Courier-News* – (New Jersey) **NJ utilities told to improve communication in blackouts.** Four of New Jersey’s electric utility companies were cited by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities January 24 when the board stated that utility companies should improve their communications systems and training after an investigation into the Hurricane Irene response in 2011.
Source: http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20130123/NJBIZ/301230044/NJ-utilities-told-to-improve-communication-in-blackouts?nclick_check=1

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

2. *January 24, Beaver County Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Nuke plant worker fired over snubbers violation, plant cited by NRC.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) cited FirstEnergy Corporation the week of January 21 after a Beaver Valley plant employee failed to report a missing safety check for snubbers, which are used to protect steam pipes during earthquakes and other emergencies. The NRC claims the worker overlooked one snubber during an inspection at the Pittsburgh plant, and did not report the mistake until an audit uncovered it a year afterwards.
Source: http://www.timesonline.com/news/local_news/nuke-plant-worker-fired-over-snubbers-violation-plant-cited-by/article_d1e163f3-639f-5fe0-b77c-8d05c4905e76.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *January 11, ATLAW* – (Georgia) **Albany military contractors plead guilty to bribery.** Federal prosecutors announced January 11 that two employees from an Albany machine product firm pleaded guilty to bribing a public official and over charging the U.S Department of Defense more than \$900,000.
Source: <http://www.atlawblog.com/2013/01/albany-military-contractors-plead-guilty-to-bribery/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *January 23, Albany Tribune* – (Oregon) **Serial robbery suspect “Dopey the Bandit” in custody.** A suspect believed to be the bank robber known as “Dopey the Bandit” was arrested in Portland. He is suspected of 11 robberies, 4 of which targeted financial institutions.
Source: <http://www.albanytribune.com/23012013-serial-robbery-suspect-dopey-the-bandit-in-custody/>
5. *January 23, WBTV 3 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **Charlotte woman sentenced to federal prison for mail fraud.** A former manager at an insurance company was sentenced for defrauding her employer of around \$730,000 over 6 years by creating duplicates of checks paid to underwriter companies and depositing them into a personal bank account.
Source: <http://www.wbtv.com/story/20661255/charlotte-woman-sentenced-to-federal-prison-for-mail-fraud>
6. *January 23, Out-Law News* – (International) **Most banks experienced DDoS attacks last year, according to Ponemon Institute survey.** A report by the Ponemon Institute revealed that 64 percent of 650 banking IT professionals surveyed said a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack targeted their institutions in 2012. The survey also measured responses on the ability of banks to prevent DDoS attacks and barriers to preventing attacks.
Source: <http://www.out-law.com/en/articles/2013/january/most-banks-experienced-ddos-attacks-last-year-according-to-ponemon-institute-survey/>
7. *January 23, Wired.com* – (International) **Mastermind behind Gozi bank malware charged along with two others.** The Russian national who developed and distributed

the Gozi banking malware was charged along with two co-conspirators with various counts of fraud and unauthorized access related to their malware's infection of over a million computers to obtain customers' banking credentials.

Source: <http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2013/01/mastermind-behind-gozi-charged/>

8. *January 23, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (California) **Owner of Elk Grove mortgage business convicted in massive mortgage fraud scheme.** The owner and principal operator of Liberty Real Estate and Investment Company was found guilty in a Sacramento court of submitting falsified documents for buyers in real estate transactions, almost all of which went into foreclosure, costing lending institutions more than \$5.5 million.

Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/owner-of-elk-grove-mortgage-business-convicted-in-massive-mortgage-fraud-scheme>

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Transportation Sector

9. *January 24, Associated Press* – (Maine; New Hampshire) **Frozen or not, bridge still stuck.** The Sarah Long Bridge between Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and Kittery, Maine, failed to fully close and became stuck, causing traffic backups January 23.

Source: <http://www.pressherald.com/news/maine-new-hampshire-bridge-stuck-work.html>

10. *January 24, WNEM 5 Bay City* – (Michigan) **All lanes of SB I-75 over Zilwaukee Bridge back open.** Several accidents were reported throughout Michigan due to snowy driving conditions, including a crash on Interstate 75 in Saginaw County. Police closed the highway for about 3 hours as a precaution.

Source: <http://www.wnem.com/story/20667449/accident-on-zilwaukee-bridge-slowing-traffic-on-i-75>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

11. *January 23, Dallas Morning News* – (Texas) **Feds continue crackdown of mail theft in Dallas using 'fishing' devices.** Federal agents are increasing surveillance on Dallas-area post offices to crack down on thieves "fishing" mailboxes, a new mail-theft technique that has become popular in the Dallas-Forth Worth area.

Source: <http://crimeblog.dallasnews.com/2013/01/feds-continue-crackdown-of-mail-theft-in-dallas-using-fishing-devices.html/>

12. *January 23, Maysville Ledger Independent* – (Ohio) **Adams County men arrested for mail theft.** Two men were arrested after following a postal worker and stealing recently delivered mail, clothes, and credit cards from mailboxes.

Source: http://www.maysville-online.com/news/local/adams-county-men-arrested-for-mail-theft/article_634df46b-336b-582f-8bd3-9f0e9ee1ca20.html

13. *January 23, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Fraudulent checks traced to mail theft.** Numerous cases of fraudulently cashed checks are being traced to mail theft in Des Moines.
Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20130124/NEWS01/301240072/1002/Fraudulent-checks-traced-mail-theft>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

14. *January 23, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Cenex fined \$500K for Malta chemical release.** Cenex Harvest States Inc. pleaded guilty and was fined \$500,000 for the improper release of chemicals and exposing hundreds of cattle to hazardous smoke during a Great Falls fire in 2009.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2013-01-23/cenex-fined-500k-for-malta-chemical-release>

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Water Sector

15. *January 24, Erie Times-News* – (Pennsylvania) **Thousands affected by Erie-area water main break.** A water main break affected thousands of Erie Water Works customers while 12 crews attempted to find the source of the break January 23. Due to sanitation concerns, students at a local school were released early.
Source: <http://www.goerie.com/article/20130124/NEWS02/301239903/Thousands-affected-by-Erie-area-water-main-break>
16. *January 23, Minnesota Public Radio* – (Minnesota) **Tab for Minneapolis water main break: \$325,000.** Minneapolis paid \$325,000 to fix a 36-inch water pipe that broke January 4. Repair crews reported that the pipe was old, but otherwise in good working order.
Source: <http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2013/01/23/news/minneapolis-water-main-break-cost>
17. *January 23, Southern Illinoisan* – (Illinois) **De Soto main break and boil order.** A water main break January 23 left the village of De Soto under a boil order.
Source: http://thesouthern.com/news/local/boil-orders/de-soto-main-break-and-boil-order/article_2111369e-6587-11e2-9710-001a4bcf887a.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

18. *January 24, Stanford Daily* – (California) **Laptop theft compromises Packard hospital information.** A Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital laptop containing medical records of up to 57,000 was stolen from a physician’s car January 9, the hospital announced.
Source: <http://www.stanforddaily.com/2013/01/24/laptop-theft-compromises-packard-hospital-information/>
19. *January 23, WSAZ 3 Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Health care clinic evacuated after fire, seniors displaced.** A healthcare clinic has been closed and an adjacent senior living center evacuated in Clendenin after faulty wiring in the clinic lead to an electrical fire.
Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Senior-Citizens-Evacuated-after-Electrical-Fire-188070581.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

20. *January 23, Sioux City Journal* – (South Dakota) **Vermillion, S.D., water main break displaces students for 3rd day.** Around 500 students at the University of South Dakota were displaced for the third day in a row after a water main break damaged their dorm January 21 and damaged the building’s electrical system.
Source: http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/vermillion-s-d-water-main-break-displaces-students-for-rd/article_33b20168-9978-55bd-9b24-0278dc823791.html
21. *January 23, KREM 2 Spokane* – (Washington) **Parents pick up students early after explosions at Ferris.** Two chemical bombs exploded at Ferris High School January 23. School officials decided to close the school for the rest of the day while school resource officers searched the building.
Source: <http://www.krem.com/news/local/Parents--188128281.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

22. *January 23, WNCT 9 Greenville; WFMY 2 Greensboro* – (North Carolina) **Police car stolen by teenager who crashed it into a house.** A young adult faced several charges after he struck a Jacksonville Police officer, stole his police vehicle, and crashed the vehicle into a home.
Source: <http://www.digtriad.com/news/local/article/264983/57/Police-Teen-Steals-Officers-Car-Crashes-It-Into-A-House>

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Information Technology Sector

23. *January 24, Krebs on Security* – (International) **Backdoors found in Barracuda Networks gear.** Various spam filters, firewalls, and VPN appliances sold by Barracuda Networks contain undocumented backdoor accounts that could be remotely accessed via secure shell (SSH) and are accessible to hundreds of non-Barracuda companies, the vendor acknowledged.
Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2013/01/backdoors-found-in-barracuda-networks-gear/>
24. *January 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Microsoft addresses XSS vulnerability on Delish.** Microsoft fixed a cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability on its Delish cooking Web site after the issue was reported by a researcher.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Microsoft-Addresses-XSS-Vulnerability-on-Delish-323618.shtml>
25. *January 23, InformationWeek* – (International) **Security flaws leave networked printers open to attack.** A security researcher discovered flaws in Hewlett-Packard's JetDirect printer networking software which can be used to bypass security controls, disable printers, or reprint previous documents.
Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/security/vulnerabilities/security-flaws-leave-networked-printers/240146805>

For another story, see item [7](#)

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

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

26. *January 24, WJZ 13 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Firefighters battle 3-alarm fire in downtown Baltimore.** Baltimore firefighters responded to a 3-alarm fire at a three story commercial and residential facility January 24.
Source: <http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2013/01/24/breaking-news-firefighters-are-battling-a-three-alarm-fire/>

27. *January 24, Middletown Times Herald-Record* – (New York) **Kiryas Joel fires leave at least 50 displaced.** Two separate fires displaced over 50 residents in Kiryas Joel January 24. One of the fires was a 5-alarm and electrical problems are suspected at both incidents.
Source: <http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130124/NEWS/301240333>
28. *January 24, WCTI 12 New Bern* – (North Carolina) **Craven County gas leak closes local business and major road.** A gas leak in New Bern January 24 required emergency crews to shut down a local road and close 10 businesses in the area so crews could fix the leak.
Source: <http://www.wcti12.com/news/Craven-County-gas-leak-closes-local-business-and-major-road/-/13530444/18260002/-/c1o0v6z/-/index.html>
29. *January 24, DNAINfo* – (New York) **Massive fire displaces families from Amsterdam Ave. apartment building.** Around 10 apartments received fire damage while many others were damaged by water from firefighters who extinguished a large fire in New York City January 23. A total of four firefighters were injured as well as one resident.
Source: <http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20130124/washington-heights/four-alarm-fire-breaks-out-amsterdam-avenue-apartment-building>
30. *January 23, WRIC 8 Petersburg* – (Virginia) **Smell of gas causes evacuation of Henrico shopping center.** A HAZMAT team along with other Virginia authorities responded to a potential gas leak in Henrico January 23. The shopping center where the event occurred was closed for about 4 hours.
Source: <http://www.wric.com/story/20663965/smell-of-gas-causes-evacuation-of-shopping-center>
31. *January 23, Northwest Tennessee Today* – (Tennessee) **Hickman's West Baptist Church gutted by fire.** A fire January 23 destroyed the large West Baptist Church in Hickman.
Source: <http://www.nwtntoday.com/news.php?viewStory=79651>
32. *January 23, Bergen County Record* – (New Jersey) **Sparks blamed in 4-alarm fire at north Arlington metal shop.** Firefighters put down a 4-alarm fire at a north Arlington metal-working facility and shop January 23. They managed to evacuate more than 15 workers before the roof collapsed.
Source: http://www.northjersey.com/news/north_arlington_fire.html

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

33. *January 24, West Side Leader* – (Ohio) **Two Cuyahoga River dams slated for demolition.** The Sheraton and LeFever dams, originally built to provide power in Cuyahoga Falls, will be torn down over the summer of 2013 in order to improve environmental quality in the Cuyahogo River and reduce community safety concerns. Source: <http://www.akron.com/akron-ohio-community-news.asp?aID=18321>

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