



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

12 December 2012

Top Stories

- HSBC agreed to pay a record \$1.92 billion fine to settle a multi-year probe by U.S. prosecutors after being accused of failing to enforce rules designed to prevent the laundering of criminal cash, Reuters reported December 11. – *Reuters* (See item [6](#))
- The Associated Press reported December 11 that New Jersey Transit trains sustained about \$100 million in damage from flooding during Hurricane Sandy after rail cars were stored in yards that models showed an 80 to 90 percent chance of not flooding, even with a massive storm bearing down on the region. – *Associated Press* (See item [11](#))
- A New York medical doctor pleaded guilty to an \$11.7 million Medicare fraud scheme, admitting he exchanged spa services to Medicare beneficiaries that allowed their numbers to be billed for services never provided or not needed. – *Insurance and Financial Advisor* (See item [21](#))
- The Seattle Post-Intelligencer reported that prosecutors added 33 charges against the central figures in a financial scandal in Seattle Public Schools after auditors said in a new report they discovered an additional \$1.3 million that may have been spent incorrectly. – *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* (See item [24](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *December 11, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Jet fuel mistakenly pumped into cars in NJ.** Officials said aviation fuel was pumped into cars after it was delivered to three Mercer County, New Jersey gas stations by mistake, the Associated Press reported December 11. Authorities closed a Lukoil station in Lawrence, an Express Fuel in Hamilton, and a Lukoil in Hamilton. A Mercer County spokeswoman said the stations would remain closed until all underground storage tanks, lines, and filters are emptied and cleaned. State officials were investigating how the mistake happened. Also, several cars stalled December 7 when a gas station in Keyport and one in Manasquan unknowingly pumped jet fuel into their tanks.

Source: <http://www.thedailyjournal.com/viewart/20121211/NEWS01/312110049/Jet-fuel-mistakenly-pumped-into-cars-NJ>

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Chemical Industry Sector

2. *December 10, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **U.S. Labor Department's OSHA cites Honeywell Electronic Chemicals for multiple process safety management violations in Mansfield, Texas.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration December 10 (OSHA) cited Honeywell Electronic Chemicals LLC with 10 serious safety and health violations at the company's facility in Mansfield, Texas. Proposed penalties totaled \$53,000. OSHA personnel opened an investigation at the company's facility as a part of the agency's national emphasis program on process safety management (PSM) for covered chemical facilities. Employees were found to be exposed to catastrophic releases of highly hazardous chemicals while conducting operations at the plant. Six serious violations all related to PSM, and included failing to ensure process equipment complies with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices; ensure standard operating procedures

were annually certified; conduct an incident investigation within 48 hours and ensure piping and instrumentation diagrams were up-to-date. Four additional serious violations involved failing to ensure emergency exits were properly marked, confined spaces were identified by signage, the location of fire extinguishers were properly labeled, and that hazardous containers were properly labeled.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23379

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

3. *December 11, Global Security Newswire; Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Nevada; Tennessee) **Transfer of bomb-sensitive uranium could start within months.** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hopes within months to start transferring a cache of aging, weapon-usable atomic material from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee to the Nevada National Security Site, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported December 7. More than a ton of material covered by the Consolidated Edison Uranium Solidification Project encompasses high-temperature uranium 232 as well as fission-capable uranium 233 and uranium 235. Transportation of the substance by hired firms could start around the beginning of 2013. The uranium is slated for placement more than 40 feet below the Earth's surface, under a separate quantity of disused radiological material, a DOE official said.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/transfer-bomb-sensitive-uranium-could-start-within-months/>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

4. *December 11, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Fu San Machinery recalls low lead ball valves installed in flammable gas lines due to fire and explosion hazards.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Fu San Machinery Co., December 11 announced a voluntary recall of about 163,000 Low Lead Ball Valve/Shut-Off Gas Valves. The valves can crack and cause gas to leak. This poses fire and explosion hazards. The recall involves seven brands of sweat and threaded, low lead ball valves used in flammable gas piping systems used in commercial or residential settings. The valves were sold by Fu San Machinery directly to seven distributors nationwide from April 2011 through January 2012. Consumers should turn off the gas supply until a replacement gas valve has been professionally installed.

Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/prhtml13/13064.html>

5. *December 10, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Texas) **U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA cites Amerimex Motors & Controls in Houston for exposing workers to hazardous chemicals, other safety hazards.** The U.S. Department of Labor's

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) December 10 cited Amerimex Motors & Controls Inc. with 28 violations following a June complaint inspection for exposing workers to hazardous chemicals and other safety hazards, including electrical and unguarded machines at its North Milby facility in Houston. Proposed penalties totaled \$82,900. OSHA cited 13 serious violations for failing to implement energy control procedures; guard operating machinery, such as punches, lathes, and brakes; ensure compressed gases are safely stored; properly mark electrical disconnects; provide an emergency eyewash and shower; train and certify forklift operators; and ensure protective equipment, such as gloves, are used when working with hazardous chemicals. Fifteen other-than-serious violations were also cited.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23385

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *December 11, Reuters* – (International) **HSBC to pay \$1.9 billion U.S. fine in money-laundering case.** HSBC has agreed to pay a record \$1.92 billion fine to settle a multi-year probe by U.S. prosecutors, who accused Europe's biggest bank of failing to enforce rules designed to prevent the laundering of criminal cash, Reuters reported December 11. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) charged the bank with failing to maintain an effective program against money laundering and conduct due diligence on certain accounts. It also charged the bank with violating sanctions laws by doing business with customers in Iran, Libya, Sudan, Burma, and Cuba. In an agreement with the DOJ, the bank will take steps to fix the problems, pay a fine of \$1.256 billion, and retain a compliance monitor to resolve the charges through a deferred-prosecution agreement. Including penalties imposed by other agencies, the bank's fines totaled \$1.92 billion. HSBC also faces civil penalties, to be announced later December 11. The settlement offers new information about failures at HSBC to police transactions linked to Mexico, details of which were reported this summer in a U.S. Senate probe. Between 2006 and 2010, HSBC ignored money-laundering risks associated with certain Mexican customers and allowed at least \$881 million in drug trafficking proceeds, including proceeds from the Sinaloa Cartel in Mexico and the Norte del Valle Cartel in Colombia, to be laundered through the bank, according to the agreement. HSBC said it expected to also reach a settlement with British watchdog the Financial Services Authority.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/12/11/us-hsbc-probe-idUSBRE8BA05M20121211>

7. *December 11, BankInfoSecurity* – (International) **5 banks targeted for new DDoS attacks.** A hacktivist group responsible for previous distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks against banks announced the “second phase” of its campaign, saying five major U.S. banks will be the victims of new DDoS attacks starting the week of December 10, BankInfoSecurity reported December 11. U.S. Bancorp, JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, PNC Financial Services Group, and SunTrust Banks are the latest targets, according to the group, which announced its plans in a December 10 Pastebin posting. Each of these five banks suffered DDoS attacks during phase one of the hacktivist group’s campaign, which ran roughly from mid-September to mid-October. During that period, the group claimed responsibility for attacks on 10 major banks. Each institution was warned ahead of time, but none was able to completely fend off the attacks, which caused online banking outages of varying lengths.
Source: <http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/5-banks-targeted-for-new-ddos-attacks-a-5346>

8. *December 10, Softpedia* – (International) **Fraudsters are setting up bogus hotel websites, experts find.** Experts from security firm Bitdefender inform that fraudulent hotel Web sites can help criminals in accomplishing various malicious tasks, including identity theft and money laundering, Softpedia reported December 10. In other cases, they might simply ask individuals who want to book a room to pay a certain amount of money upfront. The fake Web sites usually leverage the names and reputations of famous brands. Unlike phishing sites, these fraud Web sites are not promoted via email or social media spam. Instead, they are kept secret to ensure that the domain will not be seized by authorities.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Fraudster-Are-Setting-Up-Bogus-Hotel-Websites-Experts-Find-313528.shtml>

9. *December 10, U.S. Department of Justice* – (National) **Former Dallas broker pleads guilty to defrauding investors through stock manipulation scheme.** A former Dallas securities broker pleaded guilty December 10 for his role in a scheme to defraud thousands of investors through the manipulation of publicly traded stocks that created \$44 million in illegal proceeds. The broker pleaded guilty in federal court in the Northern District of Oklahoma to one count of money laundering for laundering \$250,000 in proceeds from the fraud. The broker was originally charged along with four other defendants in a 24-count indictment unsealed February 10, 2009. Prior to trial, he fled to Costa Rica, where he remained until he was extradited to the United States in May 2012. According to court documents and evidence presented at the 2010 trial, the defendants manipulated the stocks of three companies in a “pump and dump” scheme in which they manipulated the publicly traded penny stocks. The defendants and their nominees obtained significant profits by selling large amounts of shares after they had artificially inflated the stock price. For each of the three manipulated stocks, the co-conspirators’ sell-off caused declines of the stock price and left legitimate investors holding stock of significantly reduced value.
Source: <http://www.loansafe.org/former-dallas-broker-pleads-guilty-to-defrauding-investors-through-stock-manipulation-scheme>

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Transportation Sector

10. *December 11, KWGN 2 Denver* – (Colorado) **Light Rail train strikes pedestrian, causes delays.** The Regional Transportation District (RTD) of Colorado said one of its Light Rail trains struck a pedestrian December 11. After a lengthy investigation that delayed train operations for over 2 hours police found the victim of the accident. An RTD spokesperson said a train operator going over the Santa Fe flyover near West Bayaud Avenue first reported that something may have been struck by a train. Dispatch confirmed that the victim was found at a maintenance facility. According to dispatch, the individual is alive and was transported to a nearby hospital. Officers populated the scene of the accident at the West Bayaud Avenue Light Rail crossing, with the investigation delay the operation of the C, D, E, F, and H Light Rail lines until normal operations resumed.
Source: <http://kwgn.com/2012/12/11/rtd-light-rail-train-may-have-struck-pedestrian-delays-possible/>
11. *December 11, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **NJ Transit chief: Train storage in storm ‘sound’.** New Jersey Transit’s executive director December 11 defended his decision to store rail cars in Hoboken and Kearney to protect them during superstorm Sandy in October. He told the State Assembly’s Transportation Committee that rail yards in the two cities had never flooded before and that models showed an 80 to 90 percent chance the yards would not flood even with a massive storm bearing down on the region. It turned out the models were wrong, and NJ Transit trains sustained about \$100 million in damage from flooding in the two storage yards. He said his agency is looking into places where rail cars and other equipment could be kept dry in case of future storms. The storm in New Jersey hit commuter trains particularly hard, shutting down key stations on the Port Authority Transportation Hub line between New York and New Jersey and flooding cars. As a consequence, rail lines across the State were still experiencing delays. A former official at the Long Island Railroad and Conrail said the rail car destruction in New Jersey — including damage to nearly one-fourth of its cars and locomotives — was largely preventable.
Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/news/article/NJ-Transit-chief-train-storage-decision-sound-4104197.php>
12. *December 10, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Bomb squad finds 2 pipe bombs at OKC trucking company.** Police found and disabled two pipe bombs at an Oklahoma City trucking company December 10. The Oklahoma City Police Department bomb squad said the two bombs found at the Majerus Trucking Co. were “viable and working.” Officers said the bombs were found under a truck at the facility. Police shut down Southwest 29th Street near the company as the bomb squad investigated the devices. Crews said they searched other trucks and vehicles at the site and found nothing. Investigators said they were collecting evidence and questioning employees.
Source: <http://www.koco.com/news/oklahomanews/okc/Bomb-squad-finds-2-pipe-bombs-at-OKC-trucking-company/-/11777584/17725218/-/xk9oqf/-/index.html>

Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *December 11, KION 46 Salinas* – (California) **FedEx scam hits Salinas during busy season.** KION 46 Salinas reported December 11 that FedEx verified that a phone scam is underway in Salinas, California. The scam begins with a phone call and a person claiming to represent FedEx claiming to be in possession of a package mailed to their target. The scammer tells the victim if they do not pay [for the package] “that they’re going to notify the police and that the police can actually detain the person not paying for 48 hours,” a local police officer said. The scammer then gives the victim an account number to a local bank to pay the fee. FedEx said it does not make any random phone calls to track packages. The typical target is people who primarily speak Spanish. Local police said the scammer will start speaking in English and switch to Spanish if need be. Source: <http://www.kionrightnow.com/story/20310897/fedex-scam-hits-salinas-on-record-breaking>
14. *December 10, WTVR 6 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Petersburg UPS driver shot on delivery route.** A UPS delivery driver was shot December 10 in Petersburg, Virginia, and was taken to the hospital. Police sources told WTVR 6 Richmond that the UPS driver was shot in the leg in what may have been a robbery attempt, although Petersburg Police said the motive had not been determined. The driver was stopped at an apartment complex when he was confronted. Source: <http://wtvr.com/2012/12/10/petersburg-ups-driver-shot-on-delivery-route/>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

15. *December 10, Meat & Poultry* – (International) **Japan halts beef imports from Brazil on BSE fears.** Japan has stopped importing beef from Brazil after the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) discovered a protein believed to cause bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a cow, Meat & Poultry reported December 10. OIE conducted tests on tissue from the Brazilian cow and confirmed the presence of prions, the protein linked to BSE. The OIE report stated that the animal was a beef breeding cow almost 13 years old when it died, according to information obtained during the epidemiological investigations. “The epidemiological investigation shows that the animal’s death was not caused by BSE and suggests that it may be an atypical case of the disease occurring in the oldest animals,” OIE said in its findings. “Information collected during the epidemiological investigation shows also that the animal was reared in an extensive system on grazing.” OIE added that Brazil is still recognized as having a negligible BSE risk. Source: <http://www.meatpoultry.com/News/News Home/Global/2012/12/Japan halts beef imports from Brazil on BSE fears.aspx>
16. *December 10, Food Safety News* – (Pennsylvania) **Raw milk linked to illnesses in Pennsylvania.** Raw milk produced by the Kimberton Farms Dairy and distributed by the four-store Kimberton Whole Foods is making people sick with “severe gastro enteric symptoms,” Pennsylvania’s Chester County Health Department announced

December 10. The department said Kimberton Whole Foods has removed the raw milk products from its shelves in Kimberton and Downingtown, Pennsylvania. The milk was packaged under the Camp Hill Village and Kimberton Hills brands. The Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture and Health joined the investigation into the as-yet-unnamed pathogen making people sick. Chester County health officials are also getting help from adjoining counties. Anyone experiencing diarrhea, vomiting, bloody stool, and /or abdominal pain within two weeks of drinking raw milk is urged to contact a physician.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/12/raw-milk-is-making-people-sick-in-pennsylvania-stores-pull-it-from-shelves/#.UMesEK7kGok>

17. *December 10, Food Poison Journal* – (National) **Apple slices recalled over Listeria.** Freshway Foods announced December 8 they are recalling sliced apple packs over listeria fears. The voluntary recall covers product that is already out-of-date. No illnesses linked to the recalled product had been reported as of December 10, said a company spokeswoman. About 6,670 pounds of sliced apples packaged November 12 using a packaging machine that may have been contaminated with listeria were recalled. The recall follows a finding of listeria in a retail sliced green apple product by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services. The recall covers 2.4- and 14-ounce sliced red apple packs and 14-ounce sliced green apple packs with use-by dates of November 30, December 3 and December 6. The product was shipped to Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Source: <http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/food-recall/apple-slices-recalled-over-listeria/>

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Water Sector

18. *December 11, Portsmouth Seacoast Online* – (New Hampshire) **Newmarket agrees to EPA nitrogen permit.** The town of Newmarket, New Hampshire, agreed to accept a nitrogen discharge permit issued by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and enter into an administrative order of consent that will lead to the building of a new \$14.1 million wastewater treatment plant for the town. The town administrator said December 10 that town officials agreed to the permit and to enter into the agreement in order to avoid a long legal battle while trying to give town ratepayers “a degree of rate certainty.” Asked about the potential legal costs of fighting the order by the EPA to reduce the nitrogen discharge permit first to 8 milligrams per liter (mg/l) and then to 3, he said, “I think that was a big part of it, we know we need a new plant, our plant is antiquated, it was built in the late ‘60s or early 1970s, plus this way it will give some certainty to the ratepayers.” The EPA maintains that nitrogen from wastewater treatment plants contributed to water quality violations in the Great Bay estuary and reducing eelgrass and oyster populations. As a result, the EPA issued permits requiring communities with wastewater treatment plants to update the facilities to release only 3 mg/l. Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20121211-NEWS-212110335>

19. *December 10, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Stanislaus County weighs \$3.5M deal to clean landfill.** Stanislaus County supervisors are poised to spend an additional \$3.54 million on environmental cleanup at the former Geer Road landfill in California, the Modesto Bee reported December 10. The county staff members asked the board to approve a 3-year, \$3,079,446 contract for Tetra Tech, BAS, Inc. to oversee systems that address groundwater pollution linked to the former landfill southeast of Modesto. One system extracts and burns gases that are emitted by the buried garbage. In addition, wells at the 168-acre site remove groundwater and run it through filters to remove cancer-causing toxins. To comply with an April 2011 State order for more aggressive treatment, the county could add about \$500,000 in contract amendments with Tetra Tech, a worldwide consulting firm. The Geer landfill was not designed to present-day standards when in 1970 it was located near the Tuolumne River, a mile northeast of Hughson. Monitoring shows the contaminated groundwater spread underneath the river, though the toxins were not detected in the Tuolumne, officials said. Over the years, the county has spent \$7.4 million on corrective actions.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/2012/12/10/2490559/county-weighs-35m-deal-to-clean.html>

20. *December 10, Palladium-Item* – (Indiana) **Sewer overflow alert issued for Richmond.** The Richmond Sanitary District issued a combined sewer overflow alert for Richmond, Indiana, the Palladium-Item reported December 10. Rain December 9 caused an overflow of sewage into the East Fork of the Whitewater River where South G and H streets meet the Whitewater Gorge in Richmond and at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Liberty Avenue. Residents should avoid all contact with river water downstream of this location for at least 72 hours. Swallowing or hand-to-mouth contact with sewage-contaminated river water can make residents sick. A combined sewer transports stormwater, industrial wastewater and sewage in the same pipe. When heavy rainfall occurs, combined sewers may overflow directly into the East Fork of the Whitewater River.

Source: http://www.pal-item.com/article/20121210/NEWS01/312100013/Sewer-overflow-alert-issued-Richmond?odyssey=nav|head&nclick_check=1

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

21. *December 11, Insurance and Financial Advisor* – (New York) **N.Y. doctor pleads guilty to \$11.7M Medicare fraud scheme.** A Flushing, New York medical doctor pleaded guilty to his role in an \$11.7 million Medicare fraud scheme, Insurance and Financial Advisor reported December 11. Prosecutors said while president of URI Medical Service PC and Sarang Medical PC, the doctor purportedly provided physical therapy and electric stimulation treatment, and he admitted he exchanged spa services to Medicare beneficiaries that allowed their numbers to be billed for services never provided, or not needed.

Source: <http://ifawebnews.com/2012/12/11/n-y-doctor-pleads-guilty-to-11-7m-medicare-fraud-scheme/>

22. *December 10, Becker's Hospital Review* – (North Carolina) **Carolinas HealthCare System discloses data breach to 5,600 patients.** Charlotte, North Carolina-based Carolinas HealthCare System notified 5,600 patients of Carolinas Medical Center-Randolph in Charlotte of a potential data breach from an unauthorized electronic intruder, Becker's Hospital Review reported December 10. The security breach was discovered October 8 following an upgrade in the hospital's security software. An investigation revealed that the intruder obtained emails from a provider's account between March 11 and October 8 without the provider's or the hospital's knowledge. According to the release, most of the emails did not contain patient information; however, five emails contained Social Security numbers and a few others contained medical and other patient information. Carolinas HealthCare has no evidence that the information has been misused at this time, but the health system is taking several measures to ensure the intrusion is contained and prevented in the future, according to the release.

Source: <http://www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/carolinas-healthcare-system-discloses-data-breach-to-5600-patients.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

23. *December 11, Chicago Sun-Times* – (Illinois) **Teen shot on school bus in Englewood after CPS basketball game.** A teen was shot while riding a school bus after a Chicago Public Schools basketball game in the South Side Englewood neighborhood December 10, police said. The bus, which was transporting a basketball team following the game, was near West 62nd Street and South Stewart Avenue when three or four gunman aimed at the vehicle and opened fire, said a police news affairs officer. A student was struck by a bullet in left leg and was the only shooting victim, police said. Police said the bus driver drove the teen to Provident Hospital where he was listed in good condition.

Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/16945184-418/teen-shot-on-school-bus-in-englewood-after-cps-basketball-game.html>

24. *December 10, Seattle Post-Intelligencer* – (Washington) **Figures in Seattle schools scandal face 33 new charges.** Prosecutors added 33 charges against the central figures in a financial scandal in Seattle Public Schools, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer reported December 10. Two men now face 42 charges of either first- or second-degree theft. King County prosecutors originally charged the two men and a woman with stealing \$250,000 from the Seattle schools program meant to encourage small firms to bid on district projects. State auditors examining the small-business development program found that \$1.5 million in expenditures were questionable and that \$280,000 was paid for work that was not done or did not benefit Seattle Public Schools. This fall auditors said in a new report that they may have turned up \$1.3 million more that may have been spent incorrectly.

Source: <http://www.seattlepi.com/mount-rainier/article/Figures-in-Seattle-schools-scandal-face-33-new-4105876.php>

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Emergency Services Sector

25. *December 11, Imperial Valley Press* – (California) **More than 115 inmates involved in Calipatria State Prison riot.** Nine inmates were taken to area hospitals with moderate to serious injuries after a riot involving more than 115 inmates erupted at Calipatria State Prison in California, December 8, prison officials reported. Inmate movement was being limited December 10 as prison officials continued to investigate the exact cause of the riot, according to the Calipatria State Prison public information officer. Response teams from other areas of the prison converged on the scene of the riot, which took place in Facility A's general population Level IV yard, a maximum security area, quelling the violence, and subduing the inmates after about seven minutes, the officer said. The riot started after an inmate wielding a stabbing-type weapon approached a group of five inmates in the yard and began stabbing the five men, according to preliminary reports. The five men were able to subdue their attacker and began to batter him as additional inmates approached the crime scene. At that time, a semi-automatic round was fired as a warning shot, according to the prison. Responding correctional officers used pepper spray and foam-tipped rubber rounds to control the violence as more staff arrived to assist.
Source: <http://www.ivpressonline.com/news/ivp-more-than-115-inmates-involved-in-calipatria-state-prison-riot-20121211,0,6724160.story>

26. *December 11, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Ga. inmate accused of using stolen ID to flee jail.** Authorities in Savannah, Georgia, have re-captured an inmate four days after they said he escaped from jail by fooling guards into thinking he was another prisoner due to be released. The U.S. Marshals Service and Chatham County sheriff said the inmate was captured December 10 after he was spotted in downtown Savannah. Authorities followed him into neighboring South Carolina, where he was arrested and jailed in Jasper County. Sheriff's officials said the inmate December 6 scammed his way through normal discharge procedures at the county jail by using an identification bracelet taken from a fellow inmate. He was being held on charges of drug possession and theft by receiving stolen property. He now faces additional charges of escape and making false statements to police.
Source: <http://www.wtvm.com/story/20312229/ga-inmate-accused-of-using-stolen-id-to-flee-jail>

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Information Technology Sector

27. *December 11, Wired.com* – (International) **Google accidentally transmits self-destruct code to army of Chrome browsers.** Google's Gmail service went down for about 20 minutes December 10, which coincided with widespread reports that Google's Chrome browser was also crashing. A Google engineer later confirmed the crashes were affecting Chrome users who were using another Google Web service known as Sync, and that Sync and other Google services were disrupted when Google

misconfigured its load-balancing servers. The engineer wrote that a problem with Google's Sync servers kicked off an error on the browser, which made Chrome abruptly shut down on the desktop. "It's due to a backend service that sync servers depend on becoming overwhelmed, and sync servers responding to that by telling all clients to throttle all data types," he said. That "throttling" messed up things in the browser, causing it to crash.

Source: <http://www.wired.com/wiredenterprise/2012/12/google-bug/>

28. *December 11, Softpedia* – (International) **Stored XSS that allowed hackers to hijack Tumblr blogs still unfixed.** The stored cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability that allowed hackers to hijack Tumblr blogs remains unfixed, according to a security researcher. He explains that this vulnerability could be utilized for numerous cybercriminal operations. The stored XSS could be used for phishing, malware attacks, and even to spam users. The researcher also reveals some interesting facts about this particular stored XSS security hole. For instance, victims of attacks that exploit this vulnerability do not have to be logged in to Tumblr. Also, the bug could be used to spread a malicious payload because when an entry is reblogged, the payload is also included in the new post. Furthermore, arbitrary JavaScript can be executed in the victim's browser from a remote location.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Stored-XSS-That-Allowed-Hackers-to-Deface-Tumblr-Blogs-Still-Unfixed-313829.shtml>
29. *December 11, V3.co.uk* – (International) **Researchers warn of malware attack from WordPress exploit.** Security experts are warning webmasters over a series of attacks targeting the WordPress and Joomla publishing platforms. The Sans Institute said that it has received reports of multiple exploit attempts on the platforms. The compromised sites are then injected with code which redirects to a third-party site. A Sans blogger and president of security firm Bambenek Consulting said that the attacks were particularly interesting for their method of attempting to exploit pages en masse by targeting servers. "The interesting thing to note is that it doesn't seem to be a scanner exploiting one vulnerability but some tool that's basically firing a bunch of Joomla and Wordpress exploits at a given server and hoping something hits," he explained. Sans said that the compromised sites are used to redirect users to an attack site which tries to infect users with a phony antivirus package.
Source: <http://www.v3.co.uk/v3-uk/news/2230978/researchers-warn-of-malware-attack-from-wordpress-exploit>
30. *December 11, Threatpost* – (International) **Kelihos update includes new TLD and USB infection capabilities.** The Kelihos botnet is now relying on double fast-flux domains to spread spam and malware. According to an analysis from a researcher at abuse.ch, Kelihos has also switched top-level domains, moving to .ru from .eu. More insidious, however, is that it now has the ability to spread via removable drives such as USB storage devices. Once this latest update of Kelihos infects a computer, it connects with a .ru domain hosting its command and control looking for updates. The .ru domain is double fast-flux hosted, the researcher said. Once an updated version of Kelihos is sent to the infected machine, it will infect any removable drives attached to the computer by exploiting the same vulnerability as Stuxnet. The switch to .ru domains

happened during the summer, according to the report, and the attackers have a lengthy list of sites from which to send new binaries updating the botnet, all of which are registered to REGGI-RU, a registrar in Russia. The botnet operators, however, are using a registrar in the Bahamas to register the name server domains providing DNS resolution to the Russian domains hosting malware. Kelihos boasts up to 150,000 spambots per day.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/kelihos-update-includes-new-tld-and-usb-infection-capabilities-121112

31. *December 11, CNET News* – (International) **Nokia engineer: Here's how to hack Windows 8 games.** A Nokia engineer posted an explanation on how the “use of innate Windows 8 security attack vectors” can allow a person with admittedly advanced knowledge to “compromise Windows 8 games revenue stream.” The hack, which can be completed in five multipart steps, does not necessarily highlight a security flaw that would leave users vulnerable. Instead, the hack shows the way in which hackers can get a paid game for free because of inherent flaws in the way in which apps are stored and handled by Windows 8.
Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-10805_3-57558423-75/nokia-engineer-heres-how-to-hack-windows-8-games/?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20
32. *December 10, Bloomberg News* – (International) **Facebook restored after site maintenance disrupted some access.** Facebook said it fixed an outage that left some users unable to access its social network while the company made a change to the site's infrastructure December 10. “We made a change to our DNS infrastructure, and that change resulted in some people being temporarily unable to reach the site,” a Facebook spokeswoman said in an emailed statement. “We detected and resolved the issue quickly, and we are now back to 100 percent.”
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-12-10/facebook-restored-after-site-maintenance-disrupted-some-access>
33. *December 10, The H* – (International) **Only 15% of known malware caught by Android 4.2's verifier.** A researcher at North Carolina State University found that only 15 percent of known malware samples tested on Android 4.2's new app verification service were detected. The researcher loaded 1260 malware samples from the Android Malware Genome Project onto 10 Android 4.2 devices. Of the 1260 samples only 193 were detected as malware. The researcher also performed a test comparing Google's verification against a range of ten different existing anti-virus applications through VirusTotal, looking at randomly selected malware samples from each malware family. The anti-virus applications run by VirusTotal ranged in efficacy from 100 percent to 51 percent, but the Android App verification system scored only 20.4 percent. The researcher noted that the app verification service uses a fragile mechanism of verifying SHA1 values from the app and package name to determine whether a package is dangerous or potentially dangerous. He also notes that the verification system relies on the server component, leaving the client-side of the system completely without detection capabilities.
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Only-15-of-known-malware-caught-by-Android-4-2-s-verifier-1765724.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

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

34. *December 11, KXAS 5 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Two fires, one apartment complex, hours apart.** A Dallas apartment fire that initially started December 10, reignited December 11. The fire first tore through Las Cascadas Apartments December 10. Firefighters battled the four-alarm blaze for 90 minutes before getting it under control. Firefighters were back at the complex just a few hours later to battle the second fire after crews said embers from the first fire flared up. Crews were still investigating what caused the initial blaze that left 15 families without homes. A dozen units were destroyed. The Red Cross is helping those residents by providing clothing, food, and shelter. The Red Cross said the Las Cascadas fire was the fifth fire they assisted with in north Texas in just 7 hours.

Source: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Crews-Extinguish-Apartment-Fire-Reignites-Hours-Later-182963621.html>

35. *December 11, Daytona Beach News-Journal* – (Florida) **Storm victims start cleanup; 64 homes damaged, 13 extensively.** Residents of the Terra Mar Village subdivision in Volusia County, Florida, came out December 11 to survey the damage left by the previous night's "significant wind event." According to the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, 64 trailers were damaged, 51 of which were moderately hit. There appeared to be extensive damage to 13 trailers. The village also had moderate roof damage. Power was restored to 70 percent of the park December 11. There were also reports of numerous trees down and two homes damaged at the nearby Jones Fish Camp.

Source: <http://www.news-journalonline.com/article/20121211/NEWS/121219975?p=1&tc=pg>

36. *December 11, Contra Coasta Times* – (California) **Hayward: Mother and son escape arson fire ignited by Molotov cocktail.** A fast-moving arson fire ignited by a Molotov cocktail heavily damaged a three-bedroom apartment in Hayward, California, December 11, officials said. The victims escaped the three-bedroom apartment without injury. Firefighters broke holes in the roof to ventilate the blaze, allowing others to begin battling the fire from the ground, a fire captain said. The blaze did about

\$150,000 to \$200,000 in damage to the apartment and destroyed about \$20,000 in contents. The Red Cross was called into help the residents; however occupants will be able to return to their home, he said. Investigators determined that the fire was arson, started by a Molotov cocktail thrown into the living room, according to a Hayward Fire spokesman.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_22167755/hayward-mother-and-son-escape-fast-moving-suspicious

37. *December 10, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Pool heater to blame for carbon monoxide incident at Greensburg hotel.** A Greensburg, Kansas hotel reopened after carbon monoxide exposure sent more than 30 people to a hospital where they were treated and released. The December 9 incident caused a brief evacuation of the Best Western Inn & Suites. The Kiowa County sheriff said December 10 that several children had got out of the hotel swimming pool with dilated eyes and difficulty breathing. He said the children had been exposed to high levels of carbon monoxide believed to result from a water heater failing to vent properly. Guests were allowed back into their rooms December 9, but the pool area remained closed until the problem was fixed.

Source: <http://cjonline.com/news/2012-12-10/pool-heater-blame-carbon-monoxide-incident-greensburg-hotel>

38. *December 10, WPVI 6 Philadelphia* – (Pennsylvania) **Fire tears through Mummies band's warehouse.** The fire marshal begun his investigation into a multi-alarm fire in Philadelphia, WPVI 6 Philadelphia reported December 10. Emergency crews were called to the three-story building, and homes near the massive fire were evacuated; one was destroyed and the elderly homeowner was taken to a local hospital as a precaution. Inside the 10,000 square foot warehouse was an auto repair shop and a workshop for the Fralinger String Band. The fire commissioner said more than 100 firefighters were fighting the fire. Firefighters reported seeing cars from the auto repair shop on fire when they reached the warehouse. "It became untenable and too dangerous to our firefighters and we went to an exterior attack and we did as much as we could," he said.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=8915107>

For another story, see item [8](#)

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

39. *December 11, Dredging Today* – (California) **USA: Marysville ring levee project moves forward.** After 2 years of construction, phase one of the Marysville Ring Levee

Project in California drew to a close with 4,600 linear feet of deep-soil-mixed cutoff wall installed – the first milestone in a four-phase project to reduce Marysville’s flood risk, Dredging Today reported December 11. “All major structural improvements for this stretch of levee are complete,” said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sacramento District project manager. The ring levee project is a partnership between the Sacramento District, the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, and the Marysville Levee District. The deep-soil-mixed cutoff walls, the primary focus of the project, were made of a controlled mixture of native soil, cement, and bentonite clay and created a vertical barrier to seepage in existing earthen levees. Ground was broken on the \$10.8 million first phase in September 2010 after Raito Inc. of San Leandro was awarded the contract. Funding was provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The State of California appropriated \$17 million toward the project as part of their commitment to upgrade the State’s levee systems. Upon completion, Marysville’s levee system will meet the State-mandated 1-in-200 annual chance of flooding for urban areas, making it one of the lowest at-risk cities in California’s Central Valley. The four-phase, \$100-million Marysville project is slated to be completed in 2016 and will reduce flood risk for the town of 12,000 residents on the Yuba and Feather rivers. Source: <http://www.dredgingtoday.com/2012/12/11/usa-marysville-ring-levee-project-moves-forward/>

40. *December 10, North Vernon Plain Dealer Sun* – (Indiana) **Officials hail \$1.6M dam project.** Work neared completion on a \$1.6 million project to reinforce the earthen dam on Country Squire Lake in Indiana, the main lake at Country Squire Lakes (CSL), the North Vernon Plains Daily Sun reported December 10. The 750-foot long, 35-foot tall dam was on the State’s warning list for years because of structural deficiencies that experts said could result in a failure, resulting in a flood of water down Six Mile Creek. The threat was not imminent, according to Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), but DNR said it would soon get that way without repairs. CSL officials have purposely kept the water level low to keep pressure off the dam and thus reduce the danger of the dam’s failure. Last August, W.B. Koester Construction of Bloomington began the work of reinforcing the dam and rebuilding its spillway. The work will be finished well before the June 30, 2013, deadline as set in the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs grant, which is funding most of the project. The Community Association, the quasi-governmental body that governs the private community, provided the \$50,000 match required for the grant. Thirteen years ago, high water washed over the dam, causing severe erosion. Four years ago, a series of leaks developed in the lake’s limestone bottom near the dam. Source: <http://www.plaindealer-sun.com/main.asp?SectionID=3&SubSectionID=40&ArticleID=23509>

41. *December 10, Gloucester Times* – (Massachusetts) **Rockport’s Millbrook Dam nearing completion.** After six months of restoration work, the historic Millbrook Meadow Dam in Massachusetts was set to be complete by the end of the month, the Gloucester Times reported December 10. The repairs to the dam were long overdue, after it was severely damaged by the heavy rain during a storm over Mother’s Day weekend in 2006. The project came in slightly over budget at \$1.1 million; the initial appraisal came in at \$1 million. However, the public works director said everything has

gone according to plan. Restoration work began in August, with the Federal Emergency Management Agency picking up 75 percent of the project tab and Rockport taxpayers taking out a loan for the remaining 25 percent.

Source: <http://www.gloucestertimes.com/local/x1839365506/Rockports-Millbrook-Dam-nearing-completion>

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