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North Dakota Homeland Security Anti-Terrorism Summary



The North Dakota Open Source Anti-Terrorism Summary is a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the Anti-Terrorism Summary to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

Tiny North Dakota town prepares for troubled dam. The mostly elderly residents of Kathryn, North Dakota, are bracing for another possible evacuation this spring if snow runoff again eats through a dilapidated earthen dam, which has yet to see even the first phase of \$1.8 million worth of renovations that was to have been completed months ago. Kathryn's 55 residents fled the town — which consists of little more than a bar, a church and post office — for a few days in April 2009 after flooding began to erode the Clausen Springs Dam's spillway, which is 6 miles uphill. While the town dodged trouble last year, current conditions are similar to the spring of 2009. The first phase of dam renovations to protect the town was supposed to be completed months ago, but local officials said a Minnesota company hired to do the work has done nothing since December. Sellin Brothers Inc. was the lowest bidder and won the contract in October to perform the repairs. An engineer with Moore Engineering Inc., said Sellin did some grading work, but a requirement to place 85,000 square feet of interlocking concrete blocks along the eroded spillway by December had not even started. A project manager for Sellin would not comment on why the company did not complete the work. "I guess at this point attorneys are involved and I'll leave it at that," he said. Town residents, meanwhile, have crafted and distributed an evacuation plan. The dam, built in 1967 for fishing and recreation, is about 50 feet high and 700 feet long and holds back a lake about the size of 50 football fields. Source: <http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/312558/>

REGIONAL

(Minnesota) Work begins on levee to protect Moorhead plant. Work has started on a clay levee to protect the Moorhead Power plant in Moorhead, Minnesota from spring flooding on the Red River. The Forum newspaper reported Moorhead Public Service began constructing the levee March 14. The plant houses electric distribution equipment and provides Moorhead with backup power generation. Moorhead Public Service said its plan is to provide electric and water services to customers throughout any flood. Source: http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_17613805?nclick_check=1

(Minnesota) Explosions spray acid, shrapnel inside Mpls high school. Two chemical explosions detonated inside a Minneapolis, Minnesota, high school 11 days apart, spraying flesh-burning acid and plastic shrapnel but not wounding any students, police and district officials said. Police said two 17 year-old juniors at Southwest High School are suspects in the case and have been suspended. Neither is under arrest or has been charged, but police said both could be prosecuted for making an explosive device, a felony. The teens are accused of mixing two common chemicals and pouring them into a plastic soda bottle and then placing the bottle into garbage cans in a hallway. The first explosion occurred February 24, but the district did not notify police or the school resource officer assigned to the school until a day after the second explosion March 7, according to the district. Source: <http://kstp.com/article/stories/s2014124.shtml>

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(Minnesota) Duluth meat company recalling some packaged jerky. Old World Meats of Duluth, Minnesota, recalled 83 pounds of Hot and Teriyaki-flavored red meat jerky due to mislabeling of the product. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service said the jerky contained several allergens, including soy, wheat, and milk, which were not noted on the packing. Products sold February 16, March 2-3, or March 8 are affected. Individual packages bear the establishment number "EST. 3448" inside the USDA mark of inspection. Source:

<http://www.wdio.com/article/stories/S2013909.shtml?cat=10349>

(Minnesota) Man arrested in connection with the New York Mills bomb threat. An arrest has been made following the investigation into the bomb threat that led to the evacuation of the Brunswick/Lund Boat Factory in New York Mills, Minnesota, March 8. At 6:40 p.m. March 10, a 37-year old-man from New York Mills was arrested by the local police department. The man was transported and booked into the Otter Tail County Jail in Fergus Falls. Charges are pending. Source:

<http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/44653/>

NATIONAL

Criminals kick off Japanese disaster scams at record speed. Criminals have jumped on Japan's twin earthquake and tsunami disasters at record speed, security experts said March 14. Scams range from links to fake anti-virus downloads and phony donation sites to classic online swindles that rely on greed. —What's surprising this time is how quickly they picked up on the news, said a security researcher with U.K.-based Sophos. —We knew [scams] were coming, but they started appearing in record-breaking time, less than 3 hours after the earthquake. Facebook has been used by cyber-crooks to collect information when users click on a link posing as CNN video footage of the tsunami, said Sophos. Scammers are also flooding e-mail inboxes with messages asking recipients to donate money to relief efforts, said a Symantec researcher. Another Symantec researcher noted that other scams have appeared taking advantage of news of the earthquake and tsunami. —Symantec has observed a classic 419 message targeting the Japanese disaster, said the researcher. —The message is a bogus "next of kin" story that purports to settle millions of dollars owing to an earthquake and tsunami victim. Crooks have also registered a large number of domains with URLs that may fool users into thinking that they are legitimate donation or relief sites, he said, a tactic that can also push those sites higher on search results. Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214518/Criminals_kick_off_Japanese_disaster_scams_at_record_speed

INTERNATIONAL

Pools storing spent fuel may present biggest risk at Fukushima. According to officials, pools containing spent fuel rods at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant in Japan have been heating up at three of the plant's six reactors, Bloomberg reported March 16. Water in the spent fuel pool at the number 4 reactor may be boiling, Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency said March 15. Temperatures in the spent fuel pools of the shuttered number 5 and number 6 reactors rose to as high as 145 degrees Fahrenheit at 2 p.m. March 15, up from 140 degrees at 7 a.m., a Tokyo electric official said. Left unchecked, that risks fire and possibly a nuclear reaction that spews radiation into the atmosphere, said an engineer who used to lead the Nuclear Emergency Response at Los Alamos

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National Laboratory in New Mexico. Japanese authorities were concerned about the condition of the pools of units 3 and 4, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said March 15. Military helicopters may be used to drop water on unit 3 and workers were planning to spray water into unit 4, according to the IAEA. Tokyo Electric said March 15 the containment chamber at the unit 2 reactor may have been breached because pressure dropped suddenly. Clouds of steam were seen rising from the reactor building after a fire at the number 4 reactor. The 50 workers remaining at the plant were pulled out March 15 after radiation temporarily rose to unsafe levels. They later returned. Tokyo Electric is building a cable to supply power to the plant's cooling systems, a spokesman said. The systems were knocked out by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, and the company has been pumping seawater into the reactors to keep them from melting down. The highest measurement of radiation so far taken at the plant was 400 millisieverts, 20 times the annual limit for nuclear industry employees and uranium miners, according to the World Nuclear Association. Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-16/pools-storing-spent-fuel-may-present-biggest-risk-at-fukushima.html>

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

IRS financial systems vulnerable to insider threats. The Internal Revenue Service has been inconsistent in implementing IT security controls to prevent, limit, and detect unauthorized access to its financial systems and information, making them vulnerable to malicious insiders, government auditors said March 15. The IRS failed to restrict sufficiently users' access to databases to only the access needed to perform their jobs; secure the system employed to support and manage its computer access request, approval, and review processes; update database software residing on servers that support its general ledger system; and enable certain auditing features on databases supporting several key systems, according to a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report. In addition, GAO said, 65 of 88, or nearly three quarters of previously reported weaknesses, remain unresolved or unmitigated. GAO said the IRS has not fully implemented key components of its comprehensive information security program. Although IRS has processes in place intended to monitor and assess its internal controls, auditors said, these processes were not always effective.

Source: http://www.govinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=3431

(Florida) Phishers start targeting regional credit unions. Security researchers warn phishers are becoming more focused in their attacks and have begun targeting regional credit unions. Traditionally phishers have targeted large financial institutions to reach the highest number of potential victims. However, people tend to be less suspicious of e-mails received from smaller, obscure institution. It appears phishers are catching on researchers from messaging security vendor AppRiver noted, citing a recent campaign targeting members of the Grow Financial Credit Union in Tampa Bay, Florida. The rogue e-mails pose as security alerts warning recipients their accounts have possibly been compromised. In order to restore access, users are asked to complete a form attached to the e-mail. The attachment displays a clone of the Grow Financial Web site with a form to input account number and password, as well as credit card details. The use of attachments for phishing is not a new technique, but not a traditional one either. It appears to have become more common during the past year. "Since most people are very cautious of clicking links in e-mails, perhaps the cybercriminals feel that delivering the entire Web page will increase the perceived legitimacy of the message," an AppRiver researcher explained. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Phishers-Start-Targeting-Regional-Credit-Unions-189189.shtml>

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CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

NRC to review safety of all US nuclear plants. Associated Press reported March 18 the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will conduct a “comprehensive review” of the safety of all U.S. nuclear plants following what U.S. officials are calling the dangerous and complicated situation at Japan’s damaged Fukushima Dai-ichi reactors. The U.S. President called upon the independent commission to conduct the review. “When we see a crisis like the one in Japan, we have a responsibility to learn from this event and to draw from those lessons to ensure the safety and security of our people,” he said March 17. There are 104 nuclear reactors in the United States, providing about 20 percent of the nation’s electricity. “Nuclear energy is an important part of our own energy future,” he said. A White House spokesman said the fact the President had taken the rare step of asking the NRC — an independent regulatory agency that is not under the President’s control — to undertake a review of U.S. reactor safety in light of the Japanese disaster “only adds to the urgency of that mission.” Representatives of the nuclear energy industry said March 17 operators of U.S. reactors already had begun taking steps to better prepare for an emergency. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5h0vdCsLyRvgvo4dh6syoHIs4EZ1A?docId=eb2025d88b5b45279262681304a13406>

Radiation level soars after Japan nuke plant fire. Dangerous levels of radiation leaking from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant forced Japan to order 140,000 people to seal themselves indoors March 15 after an explosion and a fire at the plant along the country’s northeastern coast. In a nationally televised statement, the Japanese prime minister said radiation had spread from the four stricken reactors. Japanese officials told the International Atomic Energy Agency the reactor fire was in a fuel storage pond and — radioactivity is being released directly into the atmosphere. After the fire was extinguished, a Japanese official said the pool might still be boiling, though the reported levels of radiation had dropped dramatically by the end of the day. That reactor, Unit 4, had been shut down before the quake for maintenance. Experts noted much of the leaking radiation was apparently in steam from boiling water. It had not been emitted directly by fuel rods, which would be far more virulent, they said. Less clear were the results of the blast in Unit 2, near a suppression pool, which removes heat under a reactor vessel, said plant owner Tokyo Electric Power Co. The nuclear core was not damaged but the bottom of the surrounding container may have been, said a spokesman for Japan’s nuclear safety agency. On March 15, the complex was hit by its third explosion since March 11, and then a fire in a separate reactor. Some 70,000 people had already been evacuated from a 12-mile radius from the Dai-ichi complex. Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gNOeRzCW105oyzi8VrtqR938MH6g?docId=193d394f40c2464191e6595bf37c1e10>

U.S., Japan use same design for reactor containment. As Japan copes with multiple crises at its Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex, federal records indicate almost a quarter of America’s nuclear reactors in 13 states share the same containment system design of the ill-fated Japanese reactors. The boiling water reactor plants were designed by General Electric (GE) and use its Mark I design for containing radioactivity. GE said March 14 it was too early to assess what caused the problems at the complex after it was hit by the tsunami, knocking out its backup power system. Five of the six reactors at the Japanese plant, which suffered a third explosion March 15, use the same General Electric Mark I reactor containment design used at 23 nuclear plants in North Carolina, Georgia,

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Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Alabama, Nebraska, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Vermont, according to a database maintained by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. All but two of them began operating in the 1970s. The Energy Northwest nuclear plant north of Richland, Washington, also is a GE boiling water reactor, but uses a newer Mark II containment design and newer GE 5 reactor design. Source:

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/03/15/1584892/us-japan-use-same-design-for-reactor.html>

(North Carolina) Nuclear Regulatory Commission sends special inspection team to Global Nuclear Fuel plant. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has sent a Special Inspection Team to Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas, LLC, March 14 to examine the circumstances associated with an event in which the licensee failed to maintain required process control over a small quantity of enriched uranium. The nuclear fuel manufacturing facility is located in Wilmington, North Carolina. The event, reported to the NRC March 2, occurred in a grinding station in one of the facility's process lines. A quantity of uranium dioxide beyond prescribed limits was found to have accumulated in a filter in the grinding station. Upon discovery of the condition, all of the facility's grinding stations were shut down to assess their conditions. No other examples of powder accumulation were discovered. Other process controls and systems ensured the event posed no danger to plant employees or the public. The three-member NRC special inspection team will determine the safety implications of the event and the adequacy of the licensee's corrective actions. The NRC will issue a publicly available inspection report documenting the findings within 30 days after the inspection is completed. Source: <http://www.wwaytv3.com/2011/03/14/nuclear-regulatory-commission-sends-special-inspection-team-to-global-nuclear-fuel-plant>

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

Hospitality industry on mission to curb cyberattacks. Three major hospitality trade associations have banded together to warn hotels nationwide about the rise in cyberattacks on their industry and to spell out the specific security measures the establishments should take to protect credit and debit card data. The American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA), Hotel Technology Next Generation (HTNG), and Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (HFTP) issued a rare joint statement that dispels the myth among some franchisees and smaller hospitality establishments that it is up to vendors or credit card brands to properly lock down credit and debit card data. Hotels and motels are increasingly becoming targeted by cybercriminals trolling for credit and debit card data. The goal is to get industry members to speed up on security. The groups specify three security steps each hotel should take. The first is to change all default passwords in the network on everything from servers to routers and firewalls. The second is to close holes in remote access network points. That includes removing default passwords and strengthening administrative and remote-access credentials, as well as instituting stronger authentication for vendors and staffers. And third, the groups are calling on smaller hotels to develop network firewalls. Source:

<http://www.darkreading.com/authentication/167901072/security/attacks-breaches/229301147/hospitality-industry-on-mission-to-curb-cyberattacks.html>

(Maine) Bomb threat forces evacuation of 425. A caller to the Augusta Civic Center in Augusta, Maine, who said three bombs — two fake and one real — had been placed there cleared the building of more than 425 visitors and staff around noon March 15. Police using bomb-sniffing dogs found no

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evidence of bombs. Two events — an Associated Grocers of Maine spring trade show that attracted about 400 people, and a Fred Pryor seminar for about two dozen people — resumed about 2 hours after the building was cleared. A civic center director said the threatening call came into the front desk at the civic center. “A gentleman on the other end said, ‘I’ve warned you before. You have three bombs in the building; two are fake and one is real,’” the director said. The director called police and had people evacuate the building and go across the parking lot to a hotel. The vice president of the Gardiner-based Associated Grocers group said the hiatus caused about 100 to 150 people, including some vendors, to leave early. The civic center, which has a 8,000-seat main auditorium and numerous other, smaller rooms for conferences and banquets, is owned and operated by the city of Augusta. The Augusta Fire Department battalion chief said his department sent all companies, including two engines, a ladder truck, and an ambulance. The center director said it was the first bomb threat he could recall in his 15 years as director of the facility. Source: http://www.kjonline.com/news/bomb-threat-forces-evacuation-of-425-visitors-at-augusta-civic-center_2011-03-15.html?searchterm=civic+center

(Hawaii) Tsunami damage closes two Big Island hotels. Four Seasons Hualalai and Kona Village Resort on the Big Island of Hawaii closed because of damage caused by the tsunami, KITV reported March 14. Four Seasons officials said it has relocated its guests to other properties on Lanai, Maui, and other hotels. The hotel management plans to reopen March 21. The waves caused damage to about 12 rooms and suites. The tsunami dragged debris and sand onto the property, including bars and pools. Hotel officials said the staff is not being laid off and that the workers are helping with the cleanup. Kona Village Resort did not specify the extent of its damage. —As the resort did sustain some damage due to the water surge, we have closed Kona Village Resort to insure that we will be ready to welcome our guests and be fully operational, the hotel said on its Web site. Source: <http://www.kitv.com/r/27191345/detail.html>

(Wisconsin) Milwaukee Craigslist gun threat points to perils of online posts. A 40-year-old Milwaukee, Wisconsin man faces federal charges after allegedly posting an anonymous online threat to shoot up a popular shopping mall, Yahoo! News reported March 13. The accused man claims he was exercising his First Amendment rights to freedom of speech. Courts have ruled social networking postings as outside First Amendment protection before. Considerable legal precedent exists to indicate the U.S. court system is unlikely to consider such posts privileged. The man was arrested January 14 on charges of transmitting a threat to injure in interstate commerce, according to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. The West Allis resident published a Craigslist —Rant and Rave— posting that read: —Mayfair Mall gonna make da news dis weekend again (da hood). The Craigslist post featured a photo of a black semiautomatic 9 mm Glock handgun. The incident, linked to a Facebook event page, erupted inside Mayfair’s Boston Store. Soon after the menacing message appeared on Craigslist Milwaukee, local police received reports. By late evening, Wauwatosa police officers and FBI agents subpoenaed Craigslist records, traced the posts and arrested the suspect. Although he claimed to own no gun and harbor no intentions of harm, the man could face up to 5 years in prison and fines totaling \$250,000, if convicted. Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ac/20110313/tr_ac/8049118_milwaukee_craigslist_gun_threat_points_to_perils_of_online_posts

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

U.S. military blocks websites to help Japan recovery efforts. The U.S. military has blocked access to a range of popular commercial Web sites in order to free up bandwidth for use in Japan recovery efforts, according to an e-mail obtained by CNN and confirmed by a spokesman for U.S. Strategic Command. The sites — including YouTube, ESPN, Amazon, eBay and MTV — were chosen not because of the content, but because their popularity among users of military computers account for significant bandwidth, according to Strategic Command spokesman. The block, instituted March 14, is intended “to make sure bandwidth was available in Japan for military operations” as the United States helps in the aftermath of the March 11 deadly earthquake and tsunami, the spokesman explained. U.S. Pacific Command made the request to free up the bandwidth. The sites, 13 in all, are blocked across the Department of Defense’s .mil computer system. “This is a response to a time of extreme demand for networks,” The spokesman said. He emphasized that it was a temporary measure. “This blockage will be of a temporary nature and may increase or decrease in the size and scope as necessary,” according to the message distributed to military announcing the move. “We are doing this to facilitate the recovery efforts under way in Japan,” The spokesman explained. “We are trying to make sure we are giving them as many avenues and as much support as we can.” Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/03/15/us.military.websites/index.html>

Rush to fix quake-damaged undersea cables. Asia’s major telecom operators scrambled March 14 to eliminate the impact on their operations from damage to several submarine cables following the massive earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Many operators were reporting some disruptions in Internet access, though the partial restoration of service was accomplished by rerouting traffic over undamaged cables and via satellites. About half of the existing cables running across the Pacific are damaged and “a lot of people are feeling a little bit of slowing down of Internet traffic going to the United States,” the chief executive of Hong Kong-based cable-network operator Pacnet said. He declined to name the damaged cables operated by other companies, but said Pacnet’s cable system connecting Japan to the U.S. is not damaged so far. Most international Internet-data and voice phone calls are transmitted as pulses of light via the hundreds of undersea fiber-optic cables. The cables, which can cost hundreds of millions of dollars, are typically owned by consortia of telecom companies, who share costs and capacity. While the clusters of glass fibers are enclosed in protective material, they remain vulnerable to undersea earthquakes, fishing trawlers, and ship anchors. There are also many choke points around the globe, where a number of cables converge. While the extent of the damage to undersea cables is unclear and financial losses unknown, operators said they are undergoing an inspection and looking to expedite restoration. Source: [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704893604576199952421569210.html?mod=WSJ_Tech LEFTTopNews](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704893604576199952421569210.html?mod=WSJ_Tech_LEFTTopNews)

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

Maruyama U.S. recalls backpack blowers and Mister Dusters due to fire hazard. Maruyama U.S. Inc., of Denton, Texas, has issued a recall March 17 for about 18,000 gasoline-powered backpack blowers and Mister Dusters. The gasoline tank can split and leak fuel, posing a fire hazard to consumers. Maruyama has received 25 reports of leaking tanks. No injuries have been reported. The backpack

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blowers and Mister Dusters were sold by authorized service dealers nationwide from April 2008 through December 2010. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11175.html>

Kawasaki Motor recalls backpack blowers due to fire hazard. Kawasaki Motor Corp. U.S.A., of Irvine, California, has issued a recall March 17 for about 3,400 gasoline-powered backpack blowers. The gasoline tank can split and leak fuel, posing a fire hazard to consumers. No incidents or injuries have been reported. The backpack blowers were sold by authorized service dealers nationwide from August 2008 through February 2011. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11174.html>

Subaru, Toyota curb output at N. American plants. Two Japanese automakers are scaling back production at North American plants as they assess their ability to get parts from Japan after that country's devastating earthquake and tsunami, the Associated Press reported March 15. Subaru of America said March 14 it suspended overtime at its only North American plant in Lafayette, Indiana. Toyota Motor Corp. also said it was suspending overtime and Saturday production at its 10 plants in the region. So far, other Japanese automakers said their North American plants are unaffected. Nissan Motor Co., Honda Motor Co., Mitsubishi Motors, and Mazda Motor Corp. all said they have not changed their production plans. But that could change if lingering damage from the earthquake prevents parts shipments. While Japanese automakers with North American plants use locally-based suppliers for many of their parts, others still come from Japan. According to the senior vice president of industry analysis and economics for the Original Equipment Suppliers Association, some parts had been in short supply before the earthquake, including semiconductors, precision bearings, and tires. He estimated that most automakers have a 3- to 4-week inventory of parts in the pipeline. "Once those start to dry out, that's where you see the shortages in the assembly plants," he said. Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=13142993&page=1>

American Suzuki Motor Corp. recalls QuadSport ATVs due to crash hazard. Suzuki Motor Corporation has issued a recall March 15 of about 1,350 Suzuki QuadSport ATVs. Distributors, including American Suzuki Motor Corp., of Brea, California; Montgomery Motors Ltd., of Honolulu, Hawaii; and Suzuki del Caribe Inc., of Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. The regulator/rectifier circuit board can fail and cause the engine to stall during riding due to an insufficient battery charge, increasing the risk of a crash. American Suzuki has received 11 reports of regulator/rectifier failure. No injuries have been reported. The ATVs were sold at Suzuki ATV dealers nationwide from September 2008 through February 2011. Source: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml11/11728.html>

Japan's auto plants closed as companies take stock. Most Japanese auto assembly plants will remain closed March 14, even though the factories are outside the hardest-hit regions and did not experience significant damage from the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan March 11. Automakers scrambled March 10 to determine whether they would be able to build and export cars in light of the rolling power blackouts and the damage to Japan's infrastructure. The three major automakers — Toyota, Nissan, and Honda — have American plants that produce most of the models they sell in the United States. But many luxury cars, like the Lexus, or the smaller, fuel-efficient cars, like the Toyota Prius and Honda Fit, are built in Japan. A Toyota spokeswoman said all of its plants in Japan would be closed March 14, but that no information was available about supplies of the Prius or other Japanese-built models. Honda said some plants would remain closed at least through March 14. Several Honda hybrid models, including the Insight and CR-Z, and the Acura RL and TSX are made in

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Japan. Nissan said all of its plants in Japan would remain closed March 14, but that most appeared to have avoided major damage. Officials were evaluating the facilities and had not made a decision about when they would reopen. Nissan dealers are not expected to experience any immediate effects, but there could be supply problems for Infiniti, Nissan's luxury brand, which is built in Japan. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/14/business/global/14auto.html>

DEFENSE/ INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

(California) F-35 tests suspended after airborne glitch. Flight testing of F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighters has been suspended after an Air Force aircraft experienced a dual generator failure and oil leak during a test sortie March 9, prime contractor Lockheed Martin said March 11. The incident occurred at Edwards Air Force Base, California, which is the main Air Force flight test facility, on aircraft AF-4, the fourth Air Force test plane. The plane, an F-35A, returned safely to base, but further test flights are being delayed while engineers figure out the cause of the problem. Unlike previous fighter jets, the F-35's flight control surfaces are moved by electro-hydrostatic actuators powered by electricity. As such, an electrical failure could be especially problematic. Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/03/defense-f35-tests-halted-031111m/>

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(Illinois) Emergency radio system under fire. Naperville, Illinois officials were asked March 15 to examine and resolve what some police officers, firefighters, and members of the public believe are potentially fatal flaws in the new emergency radio broadcasting system shared by Naperville and Aurora. A city manager agreed the radio system "is currently not operating at an acceptable level." Areas of concern raised by police include frequent loss of contact with police and firefighters, based on "dead spots" within the city limits; garbled or incoherent transmissions based on the digital system and how it interprets the human voice; interference with other emergency equipment inside vehicles such as lights and sirens; and the inability to maintain contact once structures are entered. "The problems with our current radio system are very alarming, and the safety of our employees (and) the public needs to be addressed by every member" of the city council," said a police officer and president of Naperville Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 42. An official said lodge members have "joined forces with the Naperville Firefighters Local 4302, in an attempt to educate the public and the city staff on the problems associated" with the system. Source: <http://napervillesun.suntimes.com/news/4337273-418/emergency-radio-system-under-fire.html>

(Illinois) Chicago first city with citizens sending photos, videos to 911. Chicago, Illinois, has become the first U.S. city to allow residents calling 911 to send photos and videos of the incidents from their cell phones, officials say. All the images are sent to the police department's crime-prevention information center, which reviews them to see whether they should be distributed to first responders or detectives investigating the incident. The office began accepting the images from residents in September as part of a pilot program, said a spokesman for the Office of Emergency Management and Communications. So far, the city has received more than 40 images from callers. Most of them show property damage, such as a door that has been kicked in by burglars a spokesman said. The city's dispatch system already scans for any surveillance cameras within 150 feet of a call. Any real-time video then gets put up on the call taker's screen with a map. But some city officials worry the

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program will not gain much popularity, pointing to the Txt2Tip initiative that allows people to text-message tips to the police. That program never met the department's expectations. Source: <http://www.suntimes.com/4264350-417/chicago-first-with-citizens-sending-photos-videos-to-911.html>

(Virginia) Two Buchanan County Sheriff's deputies, suspect die in shooting; two other deputies in serious condition. Two Buchanan County, Virginia, sheriff's deputies remained hospitalized in serious condition — one with life-threatening injuries — after they were shot March 13 by a man who had earlier killed two of their fellow deputies using a high-powered, long-range rifle. The deputies who died were responding to an emergency call regarding a larceny in progress at the Rogers Service Center in Vansant, Virginia, a state police sergeant said. They were shot from a distance, by a man hiding in the woods on the nearby mountain. The injured deputies were shot some time later, officials said, as they were helping to set up a search perimeter for the law enforcement officers from a half dozen agencies in the region who were arriving to help apprehend the suspect. During a news conference held near the scene late March 13, a spokesman said the suspect also was shot and killed, several hours after the initial 911 call. Source: <http://www2.tricitie.com/news/2011/mar/13/two-buchanan-county-sheriffs-deputies-suspect-die--ar-903503/?hpt=T2>

ENERGY

(California) PG&E created own pipe safety rule, document shows. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. (PG&E) avoided time-consuming and costly inspections of natural-gas transmission pipelines like the one that exploded in San Bruno, California by creating its own weaker safety standard that federal officials said was an "incorrect" interpretation of government safety regulations, the San Francisco Chronicle has learned. PG&E decided in 2008 it would test for weld problems on its older lines only if pressure on the pipes had spiked to a level 10 percent above a standard defined under federal rules, according to an internal company document instructing its operators how to manage the gas-transmission system. Under those federal regulations, however, such inspections are supposed to be conducted after any incident in which an older, potentially faulty pipeline's pressure level exceeds the standard by even the slightest amount. Officials with the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, in response to inquiries by the Chronicle, said PG&E's 10 percent add-on was "incorrect." However, they said they would need more documentation to determine whether the company had "misapplied" federal regulations. Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/03/12/MN671I7DED.DTL>

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Kashi recalls Southwest Style Chicken meals because of packaging mistake. Natural foods company Kashi recalled about 2,790 pounds of Kashi Southwest Style Chicken meals because the packages may have a different meal — Kashi Chicken Pasta Pomodoro — packaged in the box, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) said. The pasta meal contains egg, which may cause an allergic reaction in some consumers. The problem was discovered when customers complained the product was not correctly labeled, USDA said. So far, no one has gotten sick from eating the meals. Included in the recall is the 10-ounce Kashi Southwest Style Chicken

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entrees with the UPC code 1862729292 and the lot code of DEC28 11 RF B1. Request Foods Inc. of Holland, Michigan produced the chicken entrees for Kashi on December 28, 2010, and shipped the meals to stores nationwide. Source: <http://www.walletpop.com/2011/03/18/kashi-recalls-southwest-style-chicken-meals-because-of-packaging/>

(Ohio) Listeria test prompts recall of wieners, sausages. Sugar Valley Meats of Sugarcreek, Ohio, recalled approximately 200 pounds of ready-to-eat wieners, beef wieners, and small-link smoked sausage because they may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*. According to a news release, the potential problem was discovered as a result of routine sampling by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The department has not received any consumer complaints or reports of illness. Package labels bear the establishment number (Est. 165) inside the Ohio Department of Agriculture inspection legend. The products involved were sold through Sugar Valley's retail store from February 23 through March 15. Consumption of food contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/listeria-test-prompts-recall-of-wieners-sausages/>

Company recalls protein powder over salmonella concerns. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food is alerting Utah consumers of a food recall involving possible salmonella poisoning. Vitalabs Inc. of Jonesboro, Georgia, voluntarily recalled four specific lot numbers of Whey-26 Protein Powder due to concerns over potential salmonella contamination. The recall — issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration — extends to various parts of the United States including Utah, Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington as well as in Aruba, Ontario, Canada, and Poland abroad. The recalled product was offered through a variety of distribution channels, including health food stores, clinics, fitness centers, and Internet-based companies, but is not generally sold in grocery stores. Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705368679/Company-recalls-protein-powder-over-salmonella-concerns.html>

New standards for reducing pathogens in poultry. Trying to cut the risk of foodborne illnesses caused by contaminated raw poultry, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) March 16 announced stricter standards to reduce *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in young chickens and turkey. The new baseline standards take effect in July. USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) estimated that 2 years of enforcing the tougher standards should result in about 5,000 fewer *Campylobacter* infections, and 20,000 fewer *Salmonella* infections. According to an FSIS news release, poultry slaughtering establishments have made significant strides in reducing the prevalence of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, but there remains too high a risk of consumers being exposed to these pathogens through broiler chickens and turkey. Under the revised standards, no more than 7.5 percent of raw chickens can test positive for *Salmonella*. The previous tolerance was 20 percent. Under the inaugural standards for *Campylobacter* reduction, no more than 10.4 percent of raw chickens and no more than 0.79 percent of raw turkeys sampled can test positive for the pathogen. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/new-standards-for-reducing-pathogens-in-poultry/>

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(California) Health inspector scam hits LA restaurateurs. The L.A. Police Department (LAPD) and County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) in California have issued a news release warning local dining establishments that they may be the target of a scam, Food Safety News reported March 14. Recently, several restaurant owners have reported receiving calls from individuals claiming to be health inspectors. These —inspectors request personal information, such as employee phone numbers, claiming that the information is necessary for a forthcoming inspection. They then provide owners with an identification number and the date and time of the inspection. However, when that date arrives, no health inspector shows up. The LAPD and LACDPH are helping restaurant owners identify false health inspectors by providing them with the criteria for a legitimate LACDPH health officer. The LAPD and LACDPH are urging anyone who suspects they have been contacted by a fraudulent health inspector to contact the LACDPH. They advise restaurateurs not to give out private information, and to ask callers for a name and contact number. So far, officials have not determined whether the information obtained by the suspicious callers has been used in an unlawful manner. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/health-inspector-scam-marks-la-restaurateurs/>

(California) Scientists: Powerful neurotoxin drove millions of fish to deaths. Scientists said a powerful neurotoxin likely drove millions of sardines to their death the week of March 7 in King Harbor Marina in Redondo Beach, California. A University of Southern California professor of biological sciences said his team took samples and found traces of a toxin that caused the fish to become disoriented and swim chaotically into the marina. At the time, local authorities and scientists said the fish were washed into the harbor by strong winds and waves, then died from oxygen deprivation — there were too many fish and not enough oxygen for all of them. The professor agrees that lack of oxygen was the ultimate cause of death. He said the domoic acid poisoning may have exacerbated the stress the fish were under due to the low oxygen, or the poisoning could have contributed to the huge congregation of fish near King Harbor. A week after the massive kill, public works crews and volunteers were still trying to clean up the stinky mess and keep the toxins from getting to the water from the rotting sardines. Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/US/03/15/california.fish.kill/index.html?hpt=T2>

(South Carolina) South Carolina firm recalls spaghetti and meatball entrees. Nestle Prepared Foods Company, of Gaffney, South Carolina, recalled approximately 10,260 pounds of frozen spaghetti and meatball entrees that may contain foreign materials, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced March 14. The products subject to recall include: 9.5-oz. packages of —Lean Cuisine Simple Favorites, Spaghetti with Meatballs. The spaghetti and meatball products were packaged October 25, 2010, and shipped to distributors and retail stores east of the Rocky Mountains. The problem was discovered after the company received complaints from consumers in Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, upon finding hard plastic in the product. FSIS has not received any reports of injury at this time. Source: <http://www.ktka.com/news/2011/mar/14/south-carolina-firm-recalls-spaghetti-and-meatball/>

(Texas) Oak Farms plant recalls 64,000 units. The Oak Farms Dairy plant in Waco, Texas, is voluntarily recalling 64,000 units of milk distributed in 10 Texas cities. Routine testing found alkaline phosphatase, an enzyme naturally present in raw milk, but not present in pasteurized milk. No illnesses have been reported. The milk was distributed in San Antonio, Austin, Waco, Temple, Killeen, Hillsboro, Mexia, Wichita Falls, Lindale, and Jacksonville through retailers, schools, and food service settings. The recall includes only half gallon plastic bottles of whole chocolate milk, half-pint paper

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cartons of whole chocolate milk, and half-pint paper cartons of 1 percent chocolate milk that carry the Oak Farms Dairy name and the plant code 48-3302. Packages are printed with a “Best by” or “Sell by” date of March 22, 2011 (printed as MAR 22 on paper half pints, 03/22/11 on plastic half gallons) and a UPC code of 4127100724, 7002635006 or 7002635007. Source:

http://www.kbtv.com/home/headlines/Oak_Farms_Plant_Recalls_64000_Units_117859024.html

Coconut drink recalled due to mold problem. One World Enterprises, LLC, of Los Angeles, California, recalled one lot of its coconut water beverage because a problem with packaging may permit the growth of mold. The recall of O.N.E. Coconut Water, packaged in 11.2 oz. Tetra Pak cartons, was announced after the company received a small number of consumer complaints. In a news release, the company said it was working with the Georgia State Department of Agriculture to determine the cause of the consumer complaints, which it said were limited to a single lot number. The results of tests conducted by the Georgia agriculture department were negative for pathogens, the company stated, and internal testing at the manufacturing plant indicated no contamination. One World said it is utilizing Corrective and Preventative Action procedures to identify why the problem exists, and investigating the possibility that problems occurred during transport that caused potential oxidation. The affected product was distributed to various retail outlets in Florida, Georgia, Indiana, New York, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/coconut-drink-recalled-due-to-mold-problem/>

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(North Carolina) Reservist faces 15 counts in espionage case. A U.S. Navy intelligence specialist accused of trying to sell classified documents has waived his right to a pretrial hearing and was formally arraigned on multiple counts of attempted espionage and mishandling classified information during a hearing March 17 at Norfolk Naval Station in Virginia. The reserve intelligence specialist 2nd class faces a general court-martial that will begin no earlier than May 19, the military judge in the case said. The man is charged with 4 counts of attempted espionage and 11 counts of mishandling classified information. He was arrested December 1 at a hotel near Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, North Carolina, by agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) and the FBI after selling classified documents to an undercover FBI agent posing as a foreign intelligence agent, according to NCIS and a federal search warrant. According to the warrant, the man accepted a total of \$3,500 from an undercover FBI agent in exchange for dozens of pages of documents that were classified either secret or top secret. The suspect is being held in the Naval Brig in Norfolk, Virginia. Source: <http://www.militarytimes.com/news/2011/03/navy-espionage-charge-reservist-031711w/>

(Alaska) New charges filed in alleged murder plot. Fairbanks-area militia members in Alaska face new charges they plotted to kill a federal judge, a member of the judge’s family, and an IRS employee, and, as part of a larger group, gathered illegal weapons to carry out the attacks, according to a U.S. attorney. The U.S. Attorney for Alaska announced new charges March 17 against four Fairbanks-area residents who were arrested on different charges the week of March 7. State prosecutors described all four as senior members of the Alaska Peacekeepers Militia. She said there were two indictments: a 55-year-old man and his 64-year-old wife were charged with conspiracy to murder a U.S. District Court judge who was presiding over a case involving their unpaid taxes, and with threatening to kill

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the judge and the judge's family member. They are also accused of conspiring to kill an IRS employee, and the man is charged with illegally possessing a handgun with a silencer. For the male suspect, the new indictment replaces earlier charges he alone threatened the judge. In the second indictment, the 27-year-old militia founder, the 55-year-old man, and a 36-year-old suspect were charged with conspiracy to possess unregistered destructive devices, and other weapons charges. The militia founder is accused of illegally having a machine gun and a silencer. Source:

<http://www.adn.com/2011/03/17/1761531/new-charges-in-case-to-kill-judge.html>

(Michigan) Suspicious package found after arrests at state capitol. Authorities said a suspicious package was found outside Michigan's state capitol in Lansing just hours after several people were arrested in the building's rotunda. The Michigan State Police bomb squad was called to investigate the package, which was discovered March 16 near the west entrance of the capitol. Thousands of people had gathered in Lansing to protest the governor's budget proposals and following the rally, several protesters entered the capitol rotunda. Police arrested 11 people who refused to leave the building. Source: <http://www.whtc.com/news/articles/2011/mar/17/suspicious-package-found-after-arrests-state-capit/>

(Ohio) School locked down after threat from student. Cleveland Elementary School in Dayton, Ohio, was put on lock down March 14 when a student threatened violence, police said. A 14-year-old student had left school promising to return with a gun, police said. Officers responded to the scene after the male student left the building following an altercation. The school was placed on lock down, and when the student returned, he was caught by being locked inside the vestibule of the school near the front lobby. School officials locked the front door behind him as he walked in. They also locked the inside door, too. The student who is accused of threatening violence was taken to the Juvenile Detention Center in Dayton, and he is expected to face charges. Source:

<http://www.whiotv.com/news/27189090/detail.html>

State Department issues warning of possible attack on U.S. interests. The U.S. State Department is warning of a possible imminent terrorist attack against U.S. interests, including the American embassy and American school, in the West African nation of Mali. The U.S. Embassy in the capital of Bamako said March 10 it has "credible information of a possible attack in the immediate future" against the embassy and the school. In a security alert to U.S. citizens in Mali, the embassy also said it had "credible information of a possible kidnapping plot targeting Americans and other Westerners in Bamako." The notice said Americans should increase their security precautions, especially in areas of Bamako frequented by Westerners but gave no details about the potential attacks. Al-Qaida affiliates have in the past carried out attacks in Mali. Source:

http://www.whsv.com/nationalap/headlines/State_Department_Issues_Warning_of_Possible_Attack_on_US_Interests_117806979.html

Navy says 17 Americans were treated for contamination. U.S. Navy officials in Japan said March 14 that 17 military personnel who had been aboard three helicopters assisting in the earthquake relief effort had been exposed to low levels of contamination. A spokesman for the American Seventh Fleet in Japan said the Navy personnel — who apparently had flown through a radioactive plume from the damaged Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Plant — were ordered to dispose of their uniforms and to undergo a decontamination scrub that had successfully removed radioactive particles. "They received

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very, very low levels of contamination,” he said in a telephone interview from Japan. “It certainly is not cause for alarm,” he said. The Navy personnel aboard the three helicopters had received the equivalent of one month’s natural background radiation from the sun, rocks or soil, he said. The helicopter crew members had landed aboard the U.S.S. Ronald Reagan, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier whose on-board sensors had indicated that the warship, too, had been exposed to airborne contamination at very low levels. The helicopter crew members were tested individually with hand-held radiation monitors. The carrier and its strike group were operating about 100 miles northeast of the damaged power plant at the time, but the helicopters had flown closer to assist in relief missions near Sendai, the city that bore much of the brunt of the tsunami after the March 11 earthquake.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/14/world/asia/14military.html?src=mv>

(Illinois) More details revealed of alleged attempt to bomb courthouse. Details of the government’s case against the alleged would-be Springfield, Illinois, federal courthouse bomber emerged March 7 in a motion seeking to bar the man from using an entrapment defense. The suspect allegedly proposed using two bombs — the second to kill emergency responders — and more than once expressed his willingness to die a martyr, the prosecution motion said. The man allegedly bought electronics components after being told Al Qaida would use them to kill U.S. soldiers and said he would leave the country after the bombing with the hope of returning in a couple of years to “do it again.” The motion, filed March 7 in U.S. Court in East St. Louis, indicates the government’s evidence includes video and audio recordings of the suspect, 30, planning and carrying out what he thought would be the destruction of the Paul Findley Federal Building in Springfield on September 23, 2009. The suspect was charged with attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction against U.S. property and with attempting to murder a federal officer or employee. The government alleges the man thought he was detonating a van loaded with a ton of explosives parked near the federal courthouse. He did not know he was working with the FBI and not al-Qaida agents, and the van contained no real explosives. Source: <http://www.sj-r.com/top-stories/x1777804158/More-details-revealed-of-alleged-attempt-to-bomb-Findley-courthouse>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Twitter adds ‘Always use HTTPS’ option. The Twitter micro-blogging service has added a new setting that allows users to always use HTTPS when accessing Twitter.com, sending secure data transmissions via SSL, not only during log-in, but also for its other pages. This means that even cookies are now transmitted in encrypted form and can no longer be read and exploited for fraudulent activities by attackers using such tools as the Firesheep extension for Firefox. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Twitter-adds-Always-use-HTTPS-option-1209032.html>

Scammers pushing fake AV via Skype. According to a new report from Krebsonsecurity.com, groups responsible for pushing fake anti-malware programs are using Internet-based phone calls over the Skype network to trick unsuspecting users into downloading their fraudulent software. Skype users are reporting they are getting automatic calls from vendors pushing rogue anti-virus. The scam is not unlike an unwanted telemarketer call, with users asked to follow instructions given by the mechanized call. Those who fall for the ruse find themselves hit with a ubiquitous scareware page, warning them that their computer is infected and advising them to erase the threats from their computer. After clicking through the warning, users are sent to a —shopping cart which convinces

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them to purchase their —professional online repair service. Previously spammers have used Skype to peddle their malware via online notifications, while larger projects, like spam campaigns and worms, have become more commonplace with the software. Source:

http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/scammers-pushing-fake-av-skype-031411

Complexity as the leading security issue. Research from Check Point and the Ponemon Institute shows organizations struggle with a growing set of security priorities and limited employee awareness about corporate policies. According to the survey of over 2,400 IT security administrators around the world, managing complex security environments is the most significant challenge facing organizations today, with over 55 percent of companies using more than seven different vendors to secure their network. According to the survey, over 700 respondents believe the primary concern with emerging technology adoption is compliance. With the proliferation of cloud computing, mobility, Web 2.0, and file sharing applications, organizations often struggle to apply the appropriate levels of security across all layers of the network, while also adhering to stringent compliance requirements. While emerging technologies have created new methods of communication and collaboration for enterprises, organizations struggle with managing multifaceted IT environments; this often contributes to greater security complexity and the risk of data loss by employees. Source:

<http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10743>

SpyEye now capable of launching DDoS attacks. The SpyEye banking trojan has been updated with distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) functionality and is being used to attack a command and control (C&C) blacklisting project. According to experts from RSA FraudAction Research Lab, the new DDoS plug-in was added to SpyEye v.1.3.10 specifically to attack abuse.ch. Abuse.ch is a project created by a Swiss security researcher several years ago to track C&C servers for the most prevalent botnets. The effort started with Zeus Tracker and expanded with SpyEye tracker and more recently Palevo Tracker. All of these services track C&Cs in real time using a variety of techniques and they provide useful data for ISPs and companies who use it to block the offending IPs at network level. According to an independent security journalist, the abuse.ch trackers are so effective that high profile SpyEye botnet masters have recently began brainstorming to find methods to destroy them or at least throw them off track, including DDoS and credibility attacks, both of which are to be executed with the help of SpyEye botnets. The latest SpyEye variants come with a DDoS plug-in and specify legitimate Web sites as backup C&Cs in their configuration files. Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/SpyEye-Now-Capable-of-Launching-DDoS-Attacks-189186.shtml>

Spoofed reported attack pages lead to ransomware. A recent malicious campaign spotted by GFI researchers uses a variation of spoofed reported attack pages, which spurs users to install an “update” for Internet Explorer. The offered update is fake and the downloaded code actually locks the user out of his/her PC and plasters a warning across the the screen telling him/her that 19 “unlicensed software, movies and music” files have been found on the computer, along with “materials with pornographic content (including homosexual content pornography).” While threatening to send the “evidence” to the police, the scammers offer the user a way out by calling a phone number and paying a ransom fee. Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1667

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Taiwanese semiconductor firms face supply shortages in Japan. Taiwan's major semiconductor manufacturers, a crucial link in the global tech supply chain, scrambled March 14 to gauge how their access to raw materials from Japanese suppliers will be affected by the powerful earthquake in Japan. United Microelectronics, ProMOS Technologies, and other companies said they were unsure how long inventories of wafer stock such as silicon would last and how disruptions in transportation or power following the quake on will upset supplies. Most can get by for 1 to 2 months, analysts believe. Japan supplies an estimated 50 percent of raw 12-inch wafers and 30 percent of raw 8-inch wafers to Taiwan. Any halt in supplies would likely raise prices paid by semiconductor customers such as Apple, and ultimately by buyers of PCs, smartphones, and electronic gadgetry. Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214438/Taiwanese semiconductor firms face supply shortages in Japan](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9214438/Taiwanese_semiconductor_firms_face_supply_shortages_in_Japan)

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AND ICONS

(Hawaii) West Hawaii National Parks remain closed after Kona tsunami. Pu'uhonua o Honaunau and Kaloko Honokohau National Historical Park staff March 13 continued to assess damage to park resources, trails, and coastal areas in Hawaii. The tsunami came ashore at Pu'uhonua and Kaloko parks March 11, entered into the near coastal regions of the parks, overtopping walls, and surged inland hundreds of feet. At Kaloko, the unimproved road to Kaloko Fishpond was closed as the coastal trail, picnic and parking area at the pond have been damaged, and debris cover the ground far inland. Much of Pu'uhonua park will remain closed as resource crews assess damage and begin clearing debris. The royal grounds, picnic area, coastal, and 1871 trails all remain closed to entry. At Pu'uhonua, the tsunami surges entered the royal grounds and fish ponds throughout the day March 11, scattering marine debris and coastal vegetation throughout the park grounds. Source:

<http://www.bigislandvideonews.com/2011/03/13/west-hawaii-national-parks-remain-closed-after-kona-tsunami/>

POSTAL AND SHIPPING

(Hawaii) No radiation detected from mail or people arriving from Japan. Government officials and commercial airlines reassured Hawaii residents that mail, cargo, and people arriving from Japan do not pose a health risk, according to information released March 17. Concerns about radiation affecting people in Hawaii started following the nuclear crisis that continues after the catastrophic quake and tsunami in Japan. "There have been no mail, mail parcels that have alerted us to any higher levels of radiation that would be harmful or hazardous to life of health," said a U.S. Postal Inspector. The U.S. Postal Service, the customs agency, and the postal police all work together to screen incoming goods and people. They said efforts to detect any radiological threat is standard procedure and has not been ramped up in the wake of the Japan crisis. Source:

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=14274649>

(Maryland) Four workers evaluated after suspicious powder found at Bethesda post office. A suspicious powder found at a Bethesda, Maryland March 12 did not contain any hazardous material, according to Montgomery County's fire and rescue service. At around 10:30 a.m., emergency crews responded to a report of an unconfirmed powder and persons exhibiting signs of illness at the post office, at 10421 Motor City Drive, the assistant chief said. Hazardous material teams evaluated the

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post office, employees and equipment. Post office customers were not exposed to the powder. The powder was discovered in an employees-only area. There were no signs of the substance inside any packages or envelopes. Four employees had signs of irritation to the skin. After being decontaminated at the post office, they were taken to a hospital for treatment, fire officials said. Skin irritation was the only reported symptom. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service will conduct its own investigation. Source: http://www.gazette.net/stories/03132011/montnew144852_32566.php

PUBLIC HEALTH

Online map tracks antibiotic resistance trends. An online tool called ResistanceMap, on The Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy Web site, can be used to track the rise in antibiotic-resistant pathogens like methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and ciprofloxacin-resistant E. coli in the United States. Created by Extending the Cure, a research project supported in part by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the maps will be updated monthly. According to an RWJF news release, policy makers and researchers can use the maps to chart areas in need of better infection control, enhanced surveillance, or better antibiotic stewardship. RWJF said the maps provide a graphic view of trends from 2000 to 2009, for example, how the resistance of E. coli toward cipro has increased by one-third each year and the possibility that this common therapy for urinary tract infections is becoming obsolete. Or that by 2005 some areas of the United States already were showing resistance rates to MRSA exceeding 70 percent. Planned to be added soon on the ResistanceMap are interactive features, data on resistance rates in other countries and new rates of U.S. antibiotic use. Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/online-map-tracks-antibiotic-resistance-trends/>

Experts plan for how to deal with nuclear terror strike. A terrorist nuclear strike in a major U.S. city would kill and injure so many people that disaster planners rewrote the rules for dealing with casualties. Their analysis is part of a comprehensive effort to develop a medical response plan for dealing with a 10-kiloton nuclear bomb, which would pack roughly the explosive force of the Hiroshima blast or 5,000 Oklahoma City truck bombs. Demand for medical care would be almost inconceivable. In Washington D.C., a city with 38 ambulances, and neighboring communities, at least 930,000 people would seek medical care. More than 70,000 would need hospitalization, vastly overflowing the city's 3,600 hospital beds. There would be at least 1,000 severely injured trauma patients for every available operating room, said the co-author, a radiation expert at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The reports were released March 14 in the Journal Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness. Any medical centers left standing for miles around ground zero would be overwhelmed by dazed and bleeding survivors, who would quickly drain stockpiles of supplies that might take days to replenish, the analysis finds. The research indicates first responders who lack medical supplies can save more lives by focusing on victims with moderate injuries rather than on those whose injuries are severe — usually the top priority on the battlefield and in more common disasters. An ethical analysis concluded it would be appropriate to use scarce medications to provide pain relief and comfort to those who may not make it. Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2011-03-15-nukemed14_ST_N.htm

Study: Medical identity theft has affected nearly 1.5M residents. Nearly 1.5 million U.S. residents have been affected by medical identity theft, but few consumers take steps to avoid such incidents, according to a new study from the Ponemon Institute, Healthcare IT News reports. The study —

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sponsored by data protection firm Experian — found resolving cases of medical identity theft costs an average of \$20,663 in 2011, up from \$20,160 in 2010. The study also found that: 50 percent of those affected by medical identity theft did not report the incident to law enforcement officials, up from 46 percent in 2010; 49 percent of those affected by medical identity theft took no new action to protect themselves from future incidents; 36 percent of medical identity theft incidents occurred between family members; and only 5 percent of those affected by medical identity theft learned about the incident from an organization's official data breach notification. Source:

<http://www.ihealthbeat.org/articles/2011/3/15/study-medical-identity-theft-has-affected-nearly-15m-residents.aspx>

(California) Insurer Health Net says it had huge data breach. Health Net said March 14 the insurer has lost computerized records containing personal information on 1.9 million current and past enrollees, including 845,000 Californians. The company, located in the Woodland Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, said it has launched an investigation and begun notifying people affected by the huge security breach. The missing information may include names, addresses, Social Security numbers, health information, and financial information from former and current Health Net members, employees, and health care providers, the company said. —Based on the information we have compiled, this is among the top 20 security breaches (nationwide) since 2005, said the director of Security Rights Clearinghouse. The California Department of Managed Health Care said the breach involves 622,000 Californians currently or previously enrolled in Health Net HMOs and 223,000 Californians enrolled in Health Net PPOs and other products. The department has launched its own probe into Health Net's security practices, a spokeswoman said. Health Net issued a brief statement that the problem involved computer server drives missing from its data center operation in Rancho Cordova. The breach was discovered when Health Net was notified by IBM, the vendor that handles the insurance company's information technology infrastructure, that it could not locate the server drives. Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/mar/14/insurer-health-net-says-it-had-huge-data-breach/>

Walgreen accused of selling patient data. A lawsuit filed in California March 8 accuses national drug-store chain Walgreen Co of unlawfully selling medical information gleaned from patient prescriptions. Unlike suits that focus on privacy, the plaintiffs accuse Walgreen of depriving them of the commercial value of their own prescription data. According to the suit, brought by a man on behalf of his two daughters and the rest of the class, Walgreen sells the information to data mining companies who resell it to pharmaceutical companies for marketing purposes. The practice allows drugmakers to target physicians considered high-volume prescribers and those most willing to prescribe new medications, it said. As a measure of the data's value, the suit cites Walgreen's 2010 annual filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which lists "purchased prescription files" as intangible assets worth \$749 million. "We believe this information belongs to the patient who paid for the drug, not the pharmacy," said the plaintiffs' lawyer. The plaintiffs also blame the practice for driving up medical costs by perpetuating the sales of high-priced brand drugs instead of cheaper generic alternatives. The focus of the latest suit shifts from privacy to unlawful business practices. Without identifying individuals, Walgreen sells data that includes the patient's sex, age group, state, the ID number of the prescribing doctor, and the name of the drug. Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/11/us-walgreen-prescriptions-idUSTRE72A83I20110311>

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TRANSPORTATION

Increased screening on flights from Japan yields radiation blips. Heightened radiation screening on flights arriving in the United States from Japan has triggered several low-level alerts. An American Airlines plane that arrived at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport from Tokyo March 16, created a blip on equipment being used by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to screen inbound flights for radioactivity. Officials found a very low level of radiation in the plane's cargo compartment, with isotopes consistent with medical supplies, an American Airlines spokesman said. "No aircraft entering the United States has tested positive for radiation at harmful levels," according to a CBP statement March 17. Last year, 580,000 radiation alerts were detected, a DHS official said. All of the alerts were cleared and most were attributed to medical isotopes or naturally occurring radiation, the official said. "And this is very very consistent with what we would expect based on the pretty sophisticated monitoring of radiation levels in Tokyo, which is where we fly in Japan," the American Airline spokesman said. Also on March 16, cargo being unloaded from flights from Japan tested positive for radiation in Chicago, Illinois, the DHS official said. The levels were deemed safe. United and Continental airlines operate 183 flights from Japan to the United States each week, according to a United spokesman. No passengers or baggage have tested positive for radiation, he said. On March 16, CBP announced close monitoring of flights from Japan "out of an abundance of caution." Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2011/TRAVEL/03/17/japan.flights.radiation/index.html>

(Massachusetts; Michigan) Man detained after alleged false air marshal claims. An airline passenger was detained March 16 after he was overheard falsely identifying himself as a federal air marshal on board a flight bound for Boston, Massachusetts officials said March 16. An actual federal air marshal on board Delta flight 1922 from Detroit, Michigan to Boston intervened and detained the man, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officials said in a statement. Law enforcement and TSA authorities met the plane upon arrival and took the passenger into custody. The matter remained under investigation, according to the TSA. Federal authorities will handle the incident, the Suffolk County, Massachusetts District Attorney's office said. The incident was not terror-related, a Logan International Airport spokesman said. Since the September 11, 2001 attacks, armed federal air marshals have significantly increased their presence on domestic and international flights as a deterrent to such attacks. But they do not identify themselves and are dressed as typical passengers. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/16/us-plane-marshal-idUSTRE72F8HT20110316>

(Arizona) Suspicious package closes Page Airport for 7 hours. Page Municipal Airport in Page, Arizona was evacuated and closed for 7 hours March 11 after an airline passenger made a statement that included the word "bomb" to a TSA screener and was found to have luggage items with suspicious wiring. Page police said the suspect, 40, of Arnold, Missouri, was arrested and booked into the Coconino County Jail in Page on a charge of disorderly conduct for engaging in disruptive behavior which resulted in the closing of the airport, and disrupting normal flight operations. A news release said officers responded to a 5:46 a.m. call for assistance. Great Lakes Airlines was preparing for its 6 a.m. departure to Phoenix at the time. The initial call was to remove an intoxicated subject. The subject, later identified as the suspect, had purchased a ticket and was scheduled to fly out on Great Lakes. He was contacted and escorted off the property. The terminal was evacuated and Page police and fire units responded. The airport was closed until the articles in the suspects' luggage were deemed to be safe. The investigation was aided by agents of the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,

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Firearms and Explosives and bomb technicians of the Arizona Department of Public Safety. Source: http://www.azdailysun.com/news/local/article_1928c103-833a-500f-a366-f1cd357a1c06.html

WATER AND DAMS

(North Carolina) Chief: explosive device was not a risk to Randleman Dam. An improvised explosive device (IED) was found at the Randleman Regional Reservoir March 17 in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Greensboro police chief told WFMY News 2 March 18 the device was small, was not close to the dam, and could not compromise the dam. But, he added, it was big enough that it could have hurt people. The chief also said the device was put in the water at Randleman Lake not long ago. He said this was a device someone created to explode and could not have been a device used by construction or road crews. It was found on the northeast shoreline of the reservoir near the Randleman dam off of Jesse Small Road, according to a Greensboro Police Department news release. The fire chief said it was unclear if someone was targeted as there are no homes or development in the area where the IED was found. No injuries or property damage was reported from the event. The remaining shoreline of the reservoir was searched for additional suspected IED. The search resumed March 18 in an effort to help ensure reservoir waters are safe, the release said. Source:

<http://www.digtriad.com/news/article/166892/57/Improvised-Explosive-Device-Found-At-Randleman-Regional-Reservoir>

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: **Fusion Center (24/7): 866-885-8295 (IN ND ONLY);** Email: ndslic@nd.gov ; Fax: **701-328-8175**
State Radio: 800-472-2121 Bureau of Criminal Investigation: 701-328-5500 Highway Patrol: 701-328-2455
US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400 Bismarck FBI: 701-223-4875 Fargo FBI: 701-232-7241

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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