

WhiteSparks

+44 (0) 844 247 4538

whitesparks@whiterockglobal.com

www.whiterockglobal.com

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China Hackers in Action: France Investigates Cyber Espionage at Defence Helicopter Firm

The French Central Directorate of Internal Intelligence (DCRI) is investigating an alleged case of industrial espionage at a helicopter engine company that may be linked to China.

Turbomeca, a subsidiary of the defence firm Safran, had its computer networks hacked over a period eight months during 2010. According to the French newspaper Le Monde, the attack resulted with the theft of data about propeller systems. Around 12 people were arrested and it is suspected that the hacking was carried out with the help from the company insiders.

The report is linked to the Chinese because Turbomeca is China's leading helicopter engine supplier working with both private and state companies. Safran is also owned 30 per cent by the French state, which means the cyber espionage could have been a political motivation for the attacks.

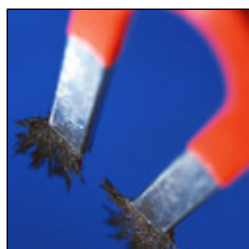
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Arrest in Samsung: Trade Secret Theft Attempted by an Employee

An employee of Samsung was arrested earlier this month for stealing trade secrets from the consumer electronics giant. An unnamed 40-year-old woman had transferred confidential information about the company's technology development plan for 2011 onto her laptop in March 2011. She then attempted to hand it over to the rivaling Chinese company that had offered her a job, according to officials at the Seoul Central District Prosecutors Office. The investigation is looking into whether the woman had been able to successfully distribute any confidential information or photographs that she had gathered.

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Mining Secrets Sorted: Neo Wins Intellectual Property Case against IMT

The rare-earths company Neo Materials won a suit against International Magnetic Technologies (IMT) and three of its managers for stealing trade secrets.

Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court of Thailand had ordered IMT and the three managers to pay \$660,000 to the Toronto-based firm that owns plants in China, Canada and Thailand. It also banned IMT from taking further advantage of the combination of magnetic powders that Neo considered to be its trade secrets.

The magnetic powders that TSX-listed Neo makes out of rare-earth elements are used in computers, flat-screen televisions, and mobile phones.

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DID YOU KNOW?

China's cyber hackers launch an estimated 1.6 billion attacks every month towards Western governments and corporations and the number is growing.

Source: [Sky News](#)



DuPont in Court: Federal Lawsuit Filed Against US PTI

DuPont has filed a lawsuit against USA Performance Technology, Inc. (PTI), Performance Group Inc. and two individuals for allegedly misappropriating trade secrets related to the DuPont Titanium Technologies business.

The lawsuit was filed last week in the U.S. Federal Court for the Northern District of California and seeks an injunction requiring the return of all misappropriated confidential or trade secret information and prohibiting its use. It also seeks unspecified monetary damages and fees and costs.

DuPont, founded in 1802, is the world's largest manufacturer of titanium dioxide, a white pigment commonly used in coatings, plastics, paper as well as a variety of other applications. The company operates in more than 90 countries.

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Korean Police Reveals Statistics: Industrial Spying on Insurance

An increasing number of industrial spies have been arrested in South Korea. As a result, the country's National Police Agency's criminal investigation section established industrial technology espionage investigation teams in Seoul, Busan, Daegu and Incheon.

According to the National Police Agency, the number of espionage cases revealed in the first quarter of 2011 is three times higher than the same period last year. In the first quarter of 2010, a total of 6 cases of industrial espionage were discovered and 15 people were arrested. This year, however, 82 suspects were arrested in 17 cases, 7 of which included information that was leaked to other countries, including the United States, Germany, Spain, China, Taiwan and Japan. Within the first three months of 2011, stolen technologies were concentrated on machinery, such as hydrogen generator manufacturing technology, blueprints of satellite broadcasting antennas and blueprints for machines that manufacture low-density polyurethane foam.

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