(U//FOUO) Urban Exploration Offers Insight Into Critical Infrastructure Vulnerabilities

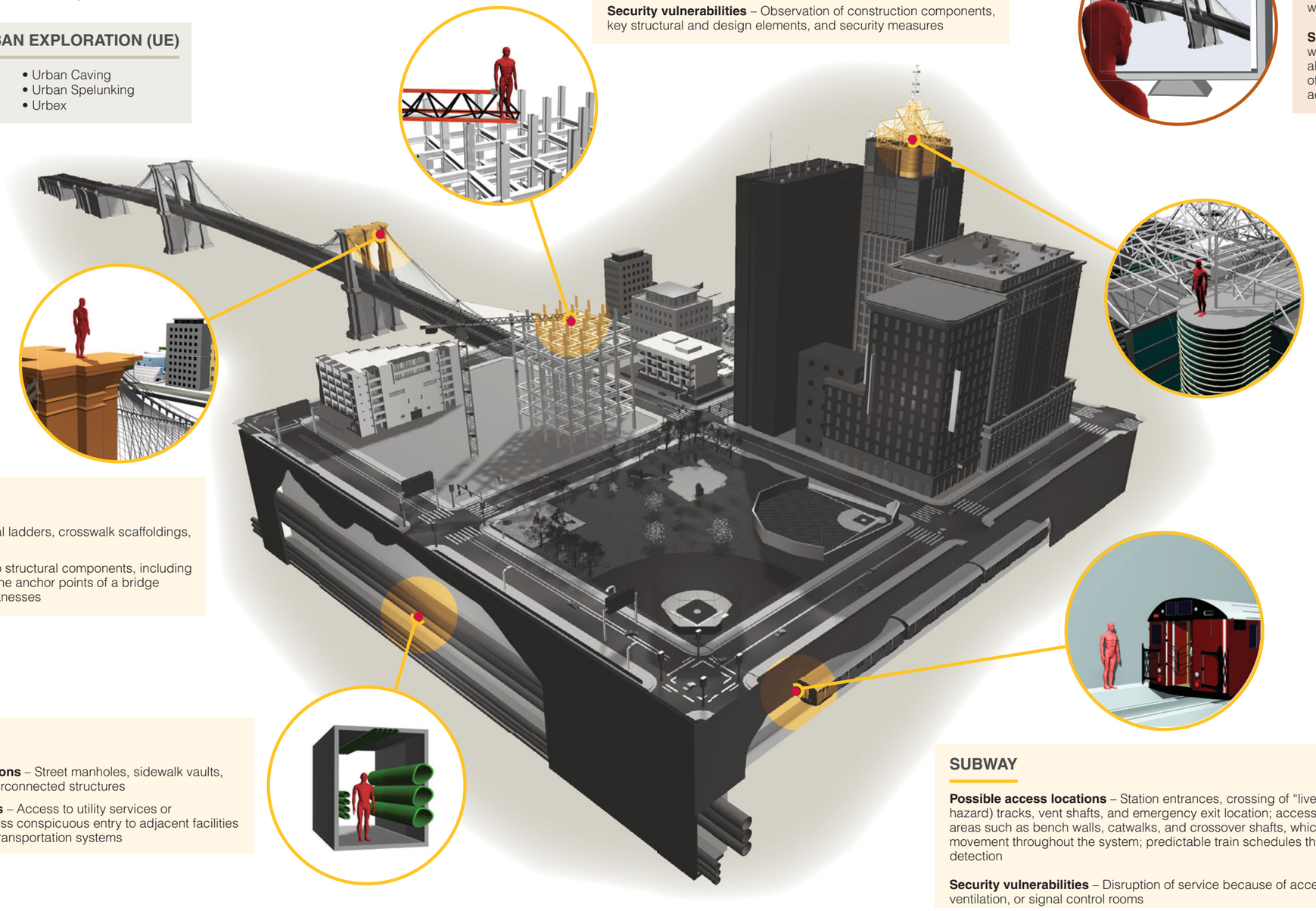
(U//FOUO) Urban Explorers (UE)—hobbyists who seek illicit access to transportation and industrial facilities in urban areas—frequently post photographs, video footage, and diagrams on line that could be used by terrorists to remotely identify and surveil potential targets. Advanced navigation and mapping technologies, including three dimensional modeling and geo-tagging, could aid terrorists in pinpointing locations in dense urban environments. Any suspicious UE activity should be reported to the nearest State and Major Area Fusion Center and to the local FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force.

COMMON TERMS FOR URBAN EXPLORATION (UE)

- Building Hacking
- Draining
- Infiltration
- Urban Caving
- Urban Spelunking
- Urbex

POPULAR UE WEBSITES

http://www.undercity.org
http://www.silentuk.com
http://www.placehacking.co.uk



FACILITIES UNDER-CONSTRUCTION

Possible access locations – Climbing over, under, or through security gates and fences; insider–facilitated access

Security vulnerabilities – Observation of construction components, key structural and design elements, and security measures

ONLINE SURVEILLANCE

Possible access locations–numerous with little risk of detection or disruption

Security vulnerabilities – Company websites often provide information about buildings; social media postings of explorers' activity often identify access points and security flaws

ROOFTOPS

Possible access locations – Fire escapes, unsecured or poorly secured interior stairways, roof-level stair bulkheads, and adjacent structures

Security vulnerabilities – Disruption of communication systems, which are often placed on rooftops, including cellular satellite systems and broadcast antennas; damage to fire equipment such as water tanks and standpipe systems; and venues for surveillance of nearby locations

BRIDGE

Possible access locations – Vertical ladders, crosswalk scaffoldings, trap doors, scuttles, and hatches

Security vulnerabilities – Access to structural components, including caissons (the structures that house the anchor points of a bridge suspension system), to identify weaknesses

UTILITY TUNNEL

Possible access locations – Street manholes, sidewalk vaults, building shafts, and interconnected structures

Security vulnerabilities – Access to utility services or communication grids; less conspicuous entry to adjacent facilities such as buildings and transportation systems

SUBWAY

Possible access locations – Station entrances, crossing of "live" (electrified hazard) tracks, vent shafts, and emergency exit location; access to restricted areas such as bench walls, catwalks, and crossover shafts, which allows for movement throughout the system; predictable train schedules that minimize risk of detection

Security vulnerabilities – Disruption of service because of access to electrical, ventilation, or signal control rooms

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