

Plugging Away – Solution

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Each of the grids can be uniquely solved and “plugged,” as described in the instructions; the completed grids are below. When filling the leak number (the number covered by the plug) and equipment number (the number avoided by the plug) in to the given chart, the solver will hopefully notice that while some leak numbers repeat, the equipment numbers are the seven digits from 1 to 7. Using the leak numbers as indices into the plug’s city of origin, and then ordering these letters by the equipment numbers, one obtains the leak-related answer **SNOWDEN**.

3	5	2	6	4	7	1
2	1	7	3	5	6	4
1	7	6	4	2	5	3
6	3	5	2	1	4	7
5	4	1	7	6	3	2
4	6	3	1	7	2	5
7	2	4	5	3	1	6

2	5	3	7	6	1	4
6	4	2	1	5	3	7
3	1	5	6	4	7	2
4	2	1	3	7	6	5
5	3	7	4	1	2	6
1	7	6	5	2	4	3
7	6	4	2	3	5	1

6	4	5	2	1	3	7
4	2	1	3	7	5	6
3	1	7	4	2	6	5
1	3	4	5	6	7	2
2	7	6	1	5	4	3
7	5	3	6	4	2	1
5	6	2	7	3	1	4

7	5	6	1	4	2	3
2	4	7	5	3	1	6
6	1	5	3	7	4	2
3	7	4	6	2	5	1
5	3	2	7	1	6	4
1	2	3	4	6	7	5
4	6	1	2	5	3	7

4	7	3	2	6	1	5
6	3	4	7	2	5	1
2	5	7	6	1	3	4
7	4	2	1	5	6	3
5	1	6	3	7	4	2
3	6	1	5	4	2	7
1	2	5	4	3	7	6

4	2	7	3	6	1	5
7	3	4	2	1	5	6
1	7	5	6	2	3	4
5	1	2	4	7	6	3
2	6	1	5	3	4	7
3	5	6	7	4	2	1
6	4	3	1	5	7	2

4	5	7	1	6	3	2
2	7	3	6	5	4	1
1	2	4	5	3	7	6
3	1	2	4	7	6	5
7	6	1	2	4	5	3
6	4	5	3	2	1	7
5	3	6	7	1	2	4

WEST EGG	3	1
EVERETT	1	6
PHOENIX	5	7
MADISON	3	5
HOUSTON	7	2
WICHITA	1	4
DETROIT	5	3

S	1	S
E	2	N
N	3	O
D	4	W
N	5	D
W	6	E
O	7	N