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A Message From The IHPA Board of Directors

IHPA Membership - Reasons Why!

IHPA MISSION (in part): This Association was formed and exists to bring together companies and individuals involved directly or indirectly with the designing, manufacturing, distributing, selling, and installation of legitimate types of hurricane and wind storm protection in a non-competitive atmosphere and to exchange ideas with the goal of improving the industry.

Basic

- Have a voice in your industry.
- Help influence direction of Codes and Standards that affect your business.
- Be in touch with industry issues and current events.
- Know about products available and network with other peers in the industry.
- See IHPA website (www.inthpa.com) for more info!

Recent accomplishments

- Declaratory statement to address Rule 9B-72. Kept Associations/Distributors from losing product approvals and bringing Dealer's business to a halt.
- Shutter labeling & identification input which prevented extensive labeling requirements.
- Active participation & involvement with the Disaster Survival House/Hurricane Warning.
- Mandatory permits and inspections, i.e. level playing field.
- No requirement for signed & sealed drawings.
- No requirement for Master files at every jurisdiction = formation of the FBC – BCIS.
- Representation on the FBC structural TAC and Hurricane Research Advisory Committee.
- Representing HP Industry views to the building and insurance industries
- Exempting Hurricane protection from egress requiring via emergency escape option.
- Exempting balconies from having to be retrofitted with sprinklers when being enclosed.
- Aided in eliminating internal pressurization design option.
- Aided in eliminating panhandle exemption.

Active Partnerships and Alliances

- International Code Council
- Federal Alliance For Safe Homes
- Institute for Business & Home Safety
- Miami-Dade Code Compliance
- Disaster Survival House / Hurricane Warning
- My Safe Florida Home
- American Society for Testing and Materials EO6

Upcoming and current issues

- New standards? Changes through ASTM E 1996-06 that could severely reduce markets for many large shutter manufacturers
- Code Plus, Higher Design Pressures and more severe impact testing.
- ICC Coded areas – WBD regions and Building Dept/Jurisdiction uniform protocol.
- Quality Assurance Programs.
- And much more to come....

Summary

We need your support! The IHPA has power and strength when we have a large and active membership. Your contributions through membership fees and committee support make all of our efforts possible. Now, more than ever, we need your participation. Don't count on the next guy to protect your interests. You owe it to yourself to be a proud IHPA Member!