

News Release

Fireman's Fund Helps Homeowners Prepare For Worse-Than-Average Hurricane Season

NOVATO, Calif., (June 01, 2010) – Weather forecasters are calling for a worse-than-average 2010 Atlantic basin hurricane season. To help prepare for a hurricane, Fireman's Fund's Risk Services and Solutions Program is offering wind mitigation consultation services to its Prestige[®] Premier customers. As a part of the Risk Services Consultation our trained consultants will analyze a home's structural features and make recommendations on how to better protect families, homes and their contents during a hurricane.

The Risk Services Consultant will also make referrals to a network of service providers for such things as shutter systems, wind resistant building products, emergency evacuation and storage for protection of art and other valuables, generator back up, and planning for family evacuations.

"Planning ahead is the best prevention tool to save lives and property in a hurricane situation," said Lyman Munson, vice president of risk services for Fireman's Fund. "Having a plan in place is crucial and worth the time spent before a catastrophe strikes."

2010 marks the 5th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. According to the Institute for Business and Home Safety, forecasters predict 15 named storms to form in the Atlantic basin between June 1 and November 30, with eight expected to be hurricanes and four developing into major hurricanes (Saffir/Simpson category 3-4-5) with sustained winds of 111 mph or greater. The prediction is based on the premise that El Nino conditions will dissipate by this summer and that anomalously warm tropical Atlantic sea surface temperatures will persist.

Many Americans Are Not Prepared - According to a May 2008 poll, more than half of adults in the Atlantic and Gulf coast states do not feel vulnerable to hurricanes or have a family disaster plan, and 88 percent have not taken steps to make their homes stronger since the last hurricane season.

Take time now to prepare:

- Back up generators can help prevent many storm related losses by keeping sump pumps, electricity, security/fire alarm systems, and refrigeration operating.

- Wind resistant roofing, shutters, doors, and impact glass seal the home and can prevent wind from entering.
- Evacuation plans should be thought through and in place for the safety of the family.
- Home inventory is easy – take photos with a digital camera or do a walk through of the home with a video camera and store it online.

About Fireman's Fund®

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal and commercial insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor's Rating Services as of November 9, 2009. Fireman's Fund is a member of the Allianz Group, the world's largest provider of property and casualty insurance. For additional information, visit www.firemansfund.com.

#

Media Contact: Suzanne Meraz, (415) 899-3647, smeraz@ffic.com,
www.twitter.com/FireFundNews, www.facebook.com/FiremansFundNews
or Janet Ruiz, (707) 386-4179, jruiz@ffic.com