



## **ICC 500 - - The federal standard for storm protection**

Following Hurricane Andrew in 1991, Dade County (Miami), Florida was held up as the standard for hurricane testing (and our Survivalite window was the first one certified by Dade County). But that changed in 2009 when the new federal standard – ICC 500-2008 – was released. Survivalite tested to this standard for both hurricanes and tornadoes that same year. This specification defined the testing protocols, and significantly increased the requirements for hurricanes. For example, Dade County impacts all glazing with a 9-pound 2X4 at 34 mph (with a Level E option for 50 mph), while the federal standard requires impact speeds at



half the rated wind speed. Thus, the Level E Dade County standards does not even cover a high-end Category 2 hurricane of 110 mph (it would require a 2X4 speed at 55 mph to meet the federal standard). Survivalite is the only Florida registered window fully compliant with ICC 500 for hurricane wind speeds up to 220 mph as well as EF-5 tornadoes (Florida Product Approval FL-1525).

ICC 500 was updated to ICC 500-2014 and is now being further revised as ICC 500-2020: Survivalite was re-tested to the 2014 version and is fully compliant with the new ICC 500-2020 standard.