

Weather-Resistance and "Tru" Performance

Home Safety Council Awards Therma-Tru for High-Performance

The Home Safety Council, which annually recognizes products and manufacturers for their safety innovations, has selected the Therma-Tru® Classic-Craft™ fiberglass door system to receive its commendation seal for safety innovation.

The door systems were selected because of their outstanding performance in harsh weather and the potential to create greater safety for residents in hurricane-prone areas.

The goal for hurricane-resistant construction is to reduce or eliminate a breach in the outer building envelope. What occurs in many hurricane situations is that the windows or doors fail under heavy rains and strong winds. This causes the home to become internally pressurized, which can force the roof to lift off of the home or the exterior walls to explode outward.



Therma-Tru's Advanced Technology Center conducted extensive research and testing to develop a door system that addresses this issue. The result – the Therma-Tru Classic-Craft line of entry door systems can withstand hurricane-force winds with resistance far exceeding the industry standards.

The Classic-Craft family of entry door systems is built with advanced composites – high-strength materials that outperform wood and steel – especially in humid, salt-air environments where traditional door materials rot or rust. The core of the door features a full-length engineered composite stile, which adds rigidity to the door.

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rot or rust. The core of the door features a full-length engineered composite stile, which adds rigidity to the door. Most importantly for coastal residents, the Classic-Craft doors have a Design Pressure Rating (DP) as high as DP-100, which exceeds the industry standard significantly. The DP rating reflects the level of wind force a door system can withstand without failing or cracking. The doors can withstand 100 pounds force per square foot – equivalent to the static pressure generated by a 250 mph wind.

The Home Safety Council also selected Therma-Tru as a 2005 recipient of its All-Star Safety Award. Therma-Tru was selected for implementing extensive home safety programs in the workplace and working to reduce home-related injuries and deaths, both on and off the job.

First Fortified Home in Illinois

When tornadoes, hurricanes, high winds, driving rains and snow come calling at the front door, one home will be better prepared to endure nature's fury – the new *Fortified ...for safer living*® home in Bolingbrook, IL. Construction is expected to be completed in early spring.

The *Fortified* home, the first in Illinois, has added protection against tornadoes, hail and severe winter weather - three of the state's most destructive natural elements. *Fortified ... for*



See *Fortified*, over

Tru-Performance

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Fortified, continued

safer living® is a new-home construction designation program of the Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), a national non-profit organization established and supported by insurance company members.

Through the use of *Fortified* techniques and construction materials, builders increase a home's overall disaster-resistance, beyond building code requirements. Building upgrades are chosen by the homebuyers and builders based on the kinds of extreme weather events mostly likely in their region. The 2,800-square-foot Bolingbrook home features a state-of-the-art *Double-wall* precast concrete panel system for the floors and exterior walls, impact-resistant roofing, connectors to securely tie the house together from roof to foundation, and doors and windows with high wind and water pressure ratings.



Guarding the entries to the home will be Therma-Tru fiberglass doors, recognized for their resistance to damage from flying debris, wind and water infiltration. The home's front entry will feature the Therma-Tru® Classic-Craft® Mahogany door system, which combines realistic wood graining and beautiful style with DP-100 performance. The other entries to the home will feature Therma-Tru® Smooth Star® door systems with the look of smooth-grained style and durable performance that outlasts steel.

Therma-Tru's Patio Doors Perform

The most significant issue in patio doors for homeowners is performance. For years, patio doors have had a reputation for poor performance. Therma-Tru is leading the industry in designing patio doors that meet tough Florida building codes, while still being very stylish. Several configurations of Therma-Tru Patio Systems have achieved a Design Pressure (DP) of 50. This means the system withstands structural test pressure of 75 pounds per square foot, equivalent to a 171 m.p.h. wind; allows no air infiltration under 25 m.p.h. winds; and prevents water penetration under test conditions equal to eight inches of rain per hour driven by a 54 m.p.h. wind.



Late last year, Therma-Tru introduced Impact Rated Glass for its Slim-Line Patio Door Systems, which feature laminated glass that has been subjected to rigorous missile impact testing and can withstand hurricane conditions. The new glass has a DP-50 water, structural and windborne debris rating on units up to 8' tall and 9' wide. The Slim-Line door system combines the durability of fiberglass with exceptional thermal performance and an advanced trouble-free track system.

A new line of 6'8" high-performing Fiber-Classic® and Smooth-Star® Hinged Patio Door Systems is now available. The doors have a DP-40 air, water and structural performance rating. Fiber-Classic® and Smooth-Star® Patio Door Systems from Therma-Tru® offer the ultimate in style, performance and durability. Both are available in a wide variety of sizes for new construction and remodeling, including 8-foot tall systems. The high-performance fiberglass door panels won't crack, rot, swell or split like wood patio doors, or rust, ding or dent like aluminum and steel.



Hurricane Awareness in the News

Tom Kraeutler, host of *The Money Pit Home Improvement Radio Show*, recently toured the country to show consumers the importance of weather-resistant products in the home.

Kraeutler was a guest on television and radio stations nationally, discussing how you can improve the safety in your home by switching from a wood entry door to fiberglass. Part of his segment showcased a video from Therma-Tru's Advanced Technology Center. During an impact test, a canon shoots a wood plank into a wood door and it breaks right through and shatters pieces everywhere, while it merely bounces off the fiberglass door.

The media tour was seen in 11 major markets including Chicago, Philadelphia, Houston and San Francisco, reaching over 28,160,120 viewers/listeners.



For more information about Tru-Performance: The Therma-Tru Doors Research Series, please contact Sara Theis at 419.891.7400 x7426 or stheis@thermatru.com.