

# Cornell Doors Pass the Test of Hurricane Ivan

Catastrophic building damage occurred across Florida's panhandle when substandard doors failed to resist the force of hurricane Ivan. Even if a single door is lost, internal pressure can blow off the roof and destroy an entire structure. However, in the midst of Ivan's carnage, businesses that used windload designed doors from Cornell Iron Works met the storm head on - and survived. And in one instance, the installation of Cornell doors happened just in time.

The Lewis Bear Company of Pensacola, Florida took occupancy of their new distribution facility only days before Ivan put their building to the test. Designed to the new Florida Building Code, Holmes & Holmes Architects had insisted that even the building's 20' wide by 14' tall exterior doors be proven to meet mandated 48.5 & 55.7 psf windload requirements. After other suppliers fell short, Cornell utilized their exclusive windload configurator to analyze the specific building requirements and supplied fifteen coiling doors constructed and installed to withstand a hurricane's wrath.

Then, just 72 hours after Lewis Bear had begun full operations in their new facility, hurricane Ivan made landfall and Pensacola residents were pummeled by the worst storm in recent memory. Ivan produced sustained winds of 120 mph, recorded gusts in excess of 140 mph and created a storm surge that temporarily redefined the areas coastline properties. In the wake of the storm, property damages skyrocketed past \$4.5 billion.

Although Ivan's force was strong enough to blow parked trailers away from their loading docks, Lewis Bear's new building and its inventory was left virtually unscathed. By comparison, their old building a short distance away had not utilized Cornell's windloaded doors and was severely damaged.

Roger Weir, Lewis Bear's Operations Manager, stated, "We are very pleased with the performance of the Cornell doors. Throughout the area, doors are blown out everywhere and the building we just moved from was destroyed. Here, our \$2.3 million of inventory was saved. Being satisfied with the Cornell doors is an understatement!"

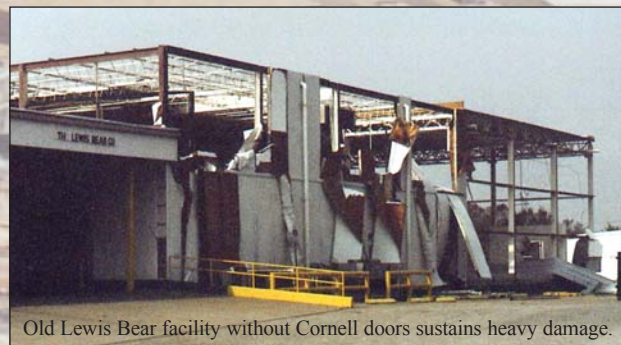
As building code requirements continue to demand greater windload performance, Cornell is there to answer the call with proven products. When it comes to the safety and security of your building, especially in extreme conditions, you can trust Cornell's expertise and more than 175 years of experience. Don't be left twisting in the wind. Make sure Cornell's hurricane tested doors are protecting your next project.



Severe building damage caused by substandard doors.



With Cornell windloaded doors, new Lewis Bear facility survives.



Old Lewis Bear facility without Cornell doors sustains heavy damage.

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