

Miami-Dade County NOA's, and "Hurricane Impact" Certification

With only a few local exceptions, the entire US east coast from Maine to Florida, and the gulf coast from Florida to Texas, has recognized the need to protect vulnerable properties from the potential for catastrophic damage caused by wind-borne debris associated with hurricane or other high-velocity wind storms.

To be recognized as hurricane impact-resistant windows and doors, assemblies require certification to standards defined by either Miami-Dade County (MDC) TAS 201, 202, and 203, or ASTM E1886 and E1996. The most recognized test requirement for both MDC and ASTM requires an impact from a 9-pound 2x4 traveling at 50fps, followed by 9000+/- pressure cycles based on the AAMA/WDMA/CSA 101/I.S.2/A440-08 design pressure of the unit.

Neither Miami-Dade County nor ASTM E1886/E1996 consider laminated glass, independent of its incorporation into an appropriate window or door system, to be an impact resistant product. Laminated glass only becomes a certified impact resistant product when it is part of a tested and sanctioned window or door system. Windows and doors that successfully complete MDC testing are then certified as Miami-Dade County Approved (MDCA), while windows and doors that successfully complete ASTM E1886 and E1996 testing will be considered ASTM compliant.

A Miami-Dade County Notice of Acceptance (NOA) is issued to window and door manufacturers covering complete window and door assemblies that have successfully completed MDC testing. In addition, NOA's are required for component parts used in the manufacture of the successful window or door system.

With the exception of Cardinal SeaStorm® PET, no other finished laminated glass available from Cardinal LG has a Miami-Dade County NOA, regardless of the interlayer used. However, all Cardinal LG laminated glass products intended for impact applications will be fabricated using Miami-Dade County NOA approved materials.

Cardinal laminated glass is available with any of the following Miami-Dade County NOA approved interlayer's:

MDCA Butacite® – DuPont Butacite .090" PVB interlayer
MDCA SentryGlass® – DuPont .060" and .090" SG interlayer
MDCA Saflex® – Solutia Saflex .090" PVB interlayer
MDCA Saflex HP® – Solutia Saflex .100" PVB interlayer
MDCA Vanceva® – Solutia Saflex .075" PVB/PET hybrid
MDCA KeepSafe Maximum® – Saflex .090" PVB interlayer
MDCA SeaStorm® PET* – .097" PVB/PET hybrid

* Cardinal LG NOA for SeaStorm® PET applies specifically to the combination of the component parts used in the assembly of the laminated glass and not to the laminated glass itself.

MDCA information will appear in the logo of approved products at .090" or thicker interlayer applications – with the exception of Vanceva® (.075). Nominal interlayer thickness will also be included in the logo.

Placement of a Cardinal LG logo on laminated glass containing specific MDCA information provides evidence that the laminated glass product was manufactured using a Miami Dade County approved interlayer at an impact-appropriate thickness. The logo does not indicate a window or door has been manufactured to meet impact resistant standards or that a window or door assembly has been installed properly into a dwelling or other structure.

Furthermore, the logo does not specify that the laminated glass complies with all requirements of a specific locality. Even when properly manufactured into a window assembly and correctly installed into a structure, **there is no guarantee that the glass will withstand the variable forces of a hurricane.**

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