

CAT Alert #3: Friday, August 26, 2011 Hurricane Irene may Affect Millions up the East Coast; Crawford & Company Adjusters are Standing By

Hurricane Irene is just below major hurricane status this morning as it moves north at 14 mph (22 km/h). Intensification is expected, though, prior to its predicted landfall mid-day Saturday around North Carolina's Outer Banks. As of 8:00 a.m. (EDT) Friday, the U.S. National Hurricane Center reports that Irene's maximum sustained winds are 110 mph (175 km/h) and that the storm will likely stay on its current track.

Irene is a very large tropical cyclone and has grown in size during the past 24 hours. Hurricane force winds extend outward up to 90 miles (150 km) from the storm center and tropical storm force winds extend outward up to 290 miles (465 km). A hurricane warning is in effect from Little River Inlet, North Carolina northward to Sandy Hook, New Jersey. Additional warnings are likely to be issued further up the east coast over the next 24 to 48 hours. Also, an extremely dangerous storm surge is forecast to raise water levels by as much as 6 to 11 feet above ground level in the North Carolina hurricane warning area.

Crawford & Company has stationed adjusters near the areas that will likely be affected up the east coast and New England, with additional adjusters on standby to handle claims generated by Hurricane Irene. You can count on Crawford to handle your storm losses or back-fill any staff that may be mobilized as a result of this event.

<u>Crawford Catastrophe Services</u> has the experienced adjusters necessary to handle policyholders' claims as quickly as they come in. You can also count on <u>Crawford Global Technical Services</u>SM to adjust major and complex losses; <u>Vehicle Services Connection</u> to conduct auto appraisals; <u>Crawford Contractor</u> <u>Connection</u>SM to manage property repairs; and <u>Crawford Contents Services</u> to accurately valuate contents.

Working with Crawford helps leverage your internal staff most efficiently with our broad network of adjusters - scalable to the largest disasters. We keep policyholders' satisfaction high and aid customer retention.

For assistance now, contact:

Crawford ClaimsAlerts

(24-hour claims intake) 1-877-346-0300 <u>claimsalert@us.crawco.com</u> (Fax) 1-678-937-8300

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