

IBHS Research Center - A Photo Tour

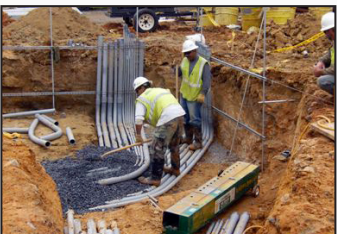
The impetus and goals for the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety Research Center first emerged after Dr. Timothy Reinhold, now IBHS' senior vice president for research and chief engineer, surveyed damage following Hurricane Andrew in 1992.



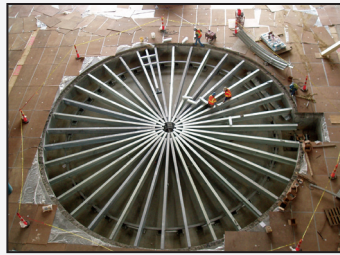
IBHS staff and founding member companies met to establish priorities and the design team worked for more than a year to create the unique facility. The facility was made possible through a \$40 million capital investment by more than 50 leading organizations in the property insurance industry.



The IBHS Board of Directors voted to break ground in July 2009 and the facility was completed a year later, with a Grand Opening held in fall 2010.



Below is the steel spine of the lab's 55-foot diameter turntable, which allows the anchoring of various-sized test specimens on the surface area of 2,375 square feet.



The lab's 105-fan array and other state-of-the-art equipment are capable of simulating fire, hail, wind storms, and wind-driven rain.



IBHS researchers conducted a wind test demonstration in fall 2010 that pitted a conventionally constructed house (below) against a house built to IBHS' FORTIFIED Midwest construction standards (right) in winds nearing 100 mph, only the FORTIFIED house survived.



Using a variety of outlets, IBHS test results are being aggressively promoted to the insurance industry, general

public, policymakers and the media in an effort to significantly improve the way residential and commercial structures are designed, built, maintained and repaired.



IBHS researchers and partners conducted an ember storm test demonstration for the media in spring 2011 to demonstrate differences in ignition potential between various construction techniques, building materials, and landscaping materials.



The IBHS Research Center's 21,000-square-foot laboratory is uniquely capable of testing full-scale buildings, allowing researchers for the first time to study entire buildings and construction systems, as well as individual components.



RESEARCH CENTER FOUNDING COMPANIES

AAA - The Auto Club Group
AAA Insurance - Auto Club Insurance Company of Florida
AAA Mid-Atlantic Insurance Group
AAA Northern California, Nevada & Utah
ACE Tempest Re
Alfa Insurance Companies
Allstate Insurance Company
American Agricultural Insurance Company
American Family Insurance
American Insurance Association
American Modern Insurance Group
Amica Mutual Insurance Company
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