



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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StormBlocker™ Shelter System Provides Protection Against Severe Weather Events

GRAPEVINE, TX – Omnitek Products, Inc. announces their new StormBlocker™ shelter system for protection against the devastating effects of tornadoes, hurricanes, and severe wind events. The StormBlocker shelter system is economically built into new construction – allowing interior rooms to continue to serve their everyday uses while being available in the event of a dangerous storm. Assembled from thin composite panels capable of deflecting wind loads and airborne debris, the advanced technology of the StormBlocker system makes it superior to other shelters, surpassing even the most rigorous Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA) guidelines. Combining ease-of-installation, affordability, and progressive technology, the StormBlocker shelter system provides homeowners with a total engineered solution against destructive weather.



Advanced Technology

The StormBlocker shelter system is an assembly of highly-engineered components. Norplex-Micarta, the leader in high performance thermoset composites, manufactures the technologically-advanced StormBlocker panels. This shatterproof composite laminate enables the StormBlocker shelter system to absorb or deflect wind loads and debris impact generated by the most destructive weather events. The lightweight, high-strength composite panels are used over a reinforced framing system with structural

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connectors, foundation anchors, anti-intrusion doors, locks, and hinges provided by other industry leaders, such as Simpson Strong-Tie, LA Fireproof Door, and Securitech Locks.

Superior Protection

Air-borne debris, not sheer wind force, has the highest probability for causing injury during an extreme storm. Typical residential construction materials cannot withstand the impact of flying debris or the force of the wind, and, historically, most storm shelters have been built below ground. However, underground shelters cannot be used in some areas and are difficult to enter when severe weather strikes. The StormBlocker shelter system solves these problems – its above-ground design allows homeowners immediate access to the shelter, and the room is capable of enduring the most destructive air-borne debris.

This state-of-the-art shelter system has been independently tested by the Texas Tech Wind Science & Engineering Research Center for debris impact resistance, and the Clemson University Wind Load Test Facility for severe wind loading. This engineered system surpasses the most advanced FEMA 320 and NSSA guidelines for wind shear and panel suction in small (8' x 8' x 8') and intermediate (8' x 12' x 8') shelters. Capable of enduring 250 mph winds and the impact of a 15 lb. two-by-four traveling at 100 mph, the StormBlocker shelter system survives conditions generated by the most devastating F5 tornados and Category 5 hurricanes without penetration or structural damage.

Easy to Install

The StormBlocker shelter system is seamlessly integrated into new home construction without compromising quality, style, or comfort. Most interior rooms, such as closets, bathrooms, or storage areas, can be built as a safe room while still continuing to serve their everyday uses. The slim 5/16" StormBlocker panels allow for minimal loss of wall space. Additionally, a standard 4' x 8' sheet weighs only 76 lbs., making the panels easy to handle. Shelters can be installed into areas as large as 8' x 12' x 8' and are finished using gypsum board, texture, and paint – taking on the look and feel of a normal room. And, with the addition of an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) storm door, the StormBlocker shelter system is handicapped accessible.

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A Cost-Effective Solution

The StormBlocker shelter system is easily fabricated using common construction tools, allowing contractors to build shelters with their own crews or subcontractors. Shorter construction times also lead to lower labor costs, resulting in an overall savings on installation. Progressive builders can differentiate their homes and neighborhoods from the competition by providing protection to homeowners, pets, and valuables. Homeowners benefit, too, as this cost-effective solution adds peace of mind and appreciable value to the home.

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About OPI

Omnitek Products, Inc. is the exclusive technical sales representative for StormBlocker composite panels and the StormBlocker shelter system. Since 1988, OPI has been the catalyst for innovation, bringing new material technologies to the marketplace. OPI is located at 1702 Minters Chapel Road, Ste. 104, Grapevine, TX 76051; Tel: 817-329-6191; Fax: 817-421-4208; E-mail: sales@stormblocker.com; Web: www.stormblocker.com.

About Norplex-Micarta

Norplex-Micarta is the leading manufacturer of high performance thermoset composites. Norplex-Micarta's vast product line serves power generation, military/aerospace, oil & gas, medical devices, electrical devices, electronics assembly, construction, heavy industry, and transportation markets throughout Europe, Asia/Pacific, and The Americas. Norplex-Micarta is located at 665 Lybrand Street, Postville, IA 52162; Tel: 563-864-7321; Fax: 563-864-4231; E-mail: info@norplex-micarta.com; Web: www.norplex-micarta.com.

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