



DEALERSHIP INFORMATION BULLETIN

Loss Prevention Advisory – “Best Practices” Information

WEATHER EXPOSURES

Losses due to weather are among the most frequent and serious type of losses that affect automobile dealership inventories. The “best practices” suggestions and recommendations below, when followed, can be instrumental in avoiding costly loss and damage to inventory.

Weather Related Causes of Loss:

- Flood
- Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Tropical Depression, Tidal Surge, Heavy Rain
- Hail
- Windstorm or Tornado

Flood and High Water – Dealerships located in flood plains or those prone to high water should follow these recommendations:

- Develop a Storm Emergency Plan, which includes procedures to move vehicles to a safer location.
 - Appoint and designate Emergency Plan Coordinators from dealership personnel.
 - Find a location with enough land/space to be used as a temporary storage area. Often a multi-story covered parking facility is ideal for this purpose.
 - Obtain permission to use or lease the temporary storage space.
 - Develop a plan to move vehicles to the storage area as quickly and safely as possible.
 - Designate dealership personnel qualified to move vehicles on short notice (all personnel driving vehicles need to be qualified to drive dealership vehicles).
 - Develop the route to move vehicles most efficiently and safely. Choose an alternate route, as well.
 - Develop a method to determine the priority of vehicles to be moved and in what order.
- Monitor weather conditions
- Develop security methods – Determine what security measures need to be in place at the temporary storage location(s).



Hurricane, Tropical Storm, Tropical Depression, Tidal Surge, Heavy Rain – These events require special attention. Flood and High Water recommendations should be followed. In addition:

- Plan and execute evacuations early.
- Monitor weather conditions.
- Place safety first.

Hail and Windstorm – Dealerships located in hail or windstorm prone areas should follow these recommendations:

- Store vehicles inside buildings when hail or windstorm are imminent or predicted. Higher valued vehicles should be given priority if space is limited.
- Install “hail netting” above vehicle storage areas and lots. This method is proven to reduce or eliminate loss in areas subject to hail throughout the hail season. The hail nets need to be substantial and installed by a qualified vendor.

Hail nets have another value in creating shade on dealership lots. Shade and the resulting reduction in heat, provide a friendlier environment for customers and reduce the effects of sunlight on vehicles.

Ally Insurance can provide additional information. Call (800) 729-4622, Option 4 for detailed information.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE
ALLY INSURANCE LOSS PREVENTION DEPARTMENT
1-800-729-4622, Option 4**

This document contains a brief explanation loss prevention measures. No warranty of the suggestions or recommendations is implied or made.