



*Wisconsin Roofing Contractors Association  
660 East Mason Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3877*

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Contact: Jeffrey J. Beiriger  
414/227-1230  
beiriger@cf-law.com

## **WRCA Release Position Paper on FM Global's Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet**

### **New Requirements Will Affect Roof Deck Securement and Above-Deck Roof Components**

Earlier this year, Factory Mutual (FM) issued revised Property Loss Prevention Data Sheet 1-29. The revisions in FM 1-29 are significant, especially as they relate to roofing systems that require a FM Class 1-90 rating or higher.

The Wisconsin Roofing Contractors Association (WRCA) developed a position statement to ask that the industry – architects, engineers, specifiers, contractors, and end-users/owners – work together to increase the level of awareness of these changes, to better understand their effects, and to design and install roofing systems appropriate for this area.

The specification of a roofing system with a FM Class 1-90 rating, for instance, would allow a roof to meet wind speeds in excess of 150 MPH, well beyond those normally experienced in Wisconsin.

Most of today's roofing systems will not meet the requirements for more substantial roof membranes and fastening patterns and only a limited number of new or redesigned systems are currently available in the market. In addition, the revised standard may necessitate additional fastening of the steel deck, stronger and more secure roof joists, and possibly the strengthening of the primary structural steel member columns of the building. In effect, buildings may need to be designed from the roof down, rather than the ground up.

For additional information about the Wisconsin Roofing Contractors Association contact the Association at (414) 227-1230. Additional information about the FM Global changes is available from WRCA, the National Roofing Contractors Association (NRCA), or the Midwest Roofing Contractors Association (MRCA).