

Storm Tested, Shelter Approved

What You Need to Know about Tornado Doors



Tornado doors are the hottest [specialty product](#) in the business right now. The biggest factor may be that tornado shelters can now look and function as part of the normal use of the space rather than only as shelters. Another reason may be that the greater number of high-profile tornadoes over the last few years has significantly increased public awareness of the need for properly designed shelters.

The testing footage in [SDI's Tornado Door video](#) demonstrates how tornado doors can prevent harm to people and property. Here are a handful of tips concerning tornado doors and the shelters they protect.

Code Change Is Coming

The *International Building Code* (IBC) 2015 requires that new school construction in areas susceptible to tornadoes with winds of 250 mph or higher must have storm shelters. Check out the map in ICC 500, and you will see that this zone ranges from Texas to Alabama up to New York.

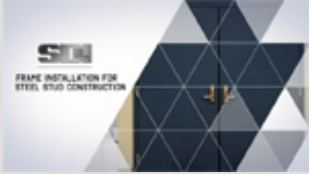
Any new K-12 structure with the capacity to hold 50 or more people will be required to have shelter space to house the structure's maximum occupancy. And it's not only educational facilities that are affected by this change. Emergency operation centers, 911 call stations, and fire, rescue, ambulance and police stations are also included.

While some regions may wait years to adopt IBC 2015, others have already chosen to implement shelter construction requirements in advance of IBC 2015. Local codes could even require some existing facilities to be retrofitted with storm shelters.

[Click here to read more >>](#)

SDI Publishes Two Installation Videos

It's essential that doors and frames are installed properly. Often when there's an issue with a door or frame, people blame the manufacturer when in fact the problem lies with poor installation. The Steel Door Institute has developed two frame installation videos to guide installers on proper installation.



[Installing a Door Frame in Steel Stud Construction](#)



[Installing a Door Frame in Masonry Construction](#)



[Click here to see all SDI videos](#)



SDI Booth at CONSTRUCT Show in Baltimore September 10-11

SDI will be at **booth #343** at the CONSTRUCT show in Baltimore. We hope to see you there!

Earn GBCI and HSW hours Online

SDI offers two [online courses on steel doors](#) that provide AIA and/or GBCI learning units online at no charge.

Steel: Green Now, Green Forever One GBCI and/or HSW hour

This course covers the role of recycled steel and its environmental benefits, the advantages of steel construction including doors and frames, LEED credits available when building with steel, and more.

[Click here to take the course](#)

Steel Doors and Frames 101 One AIA HSW hour

This course covers the various components of steel doors and frames, basics of fire rated openings and how to avoid negating a rating, performance levels of doors, and how to avoid over- or under-specifying doors' gauges, and more.

[Click here to take the course](#)