



# International Association of Structural Movers

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

When a disaster of nature strikes, such as Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana or Hurricane Sandy along the Northeast coast, confusion reigns immediately following. Houses and structures of all types and sizes need to be elevated or relocated. Owners of such properties search for immediate solutions to resolve their particular needs. And, as one might expect, local, state and national governments are bogged down attempting to determine rules and methods for aiding local residents and businesses.

The time between the disaster striking and answers being finalized, residents and business owners become frustrated and impatient to have their lives and businesses resume some sort of normalcy. Unfortunately, it is also during this time, that some unscrupulous individuals arrive on the scene and make many promises of being able to resolve one's need for a price.

### *Things to Consider When Hiring a Structural Mover*

**IASM would like to suggest you consider the following information BEFORE hiring any individual or company to perform work on or to your property.**

- Does the company have insurance that includes general liability, workman's comp, and cargo? What dollar amounts / limits do these policies cover? A certificate of insurance should be requested and received with the bids.
- How long has the business been operating? Is the company a recent start up or a well-established mover?
- Does the company you are considering have experience with the type of structure you need moved? Can the company show you examples of similar type work performed?
- What is the size of the mover's average project? Does your project fit the company's expertise?
- Does the company have the necessary equipment readily available to do your job or will they be renting part of the equipment?
- Can the company provide you with recent references?
- Is the company a current member of any trade group such as the International Association of Structural Movers?
- Can the company provide you a detailed contract outlining both parties' obligations before work begins?
- Can the mover give you a written time horizon for when the work will actually begin and be completed?
- Does the mover need to be licensed in your area? If so, request a current copy of the required license.
- Would the mover be employing any sub-contractors on your job? If yes a certificate of insurance should be requested and received prior to any work commencing.
- Would the company you are considering be willing to schedule a site visit to see the company's working operations?

The International Association of Structural Movers, founded in 1982, is a trade association representing structural movers in 12 countries. Association offices are located in Lexington, SC.

The Association's website, [www.iasm.org](http://www.iasm.org), contains a listing of professional movers that are members of the association. You are encouraged to contact these companies first when you have a need for elevation, relocation or other type services.



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