

## **HAITI FACTOR: HUB International Northeast Offers Earthquake Protection**

The Haitian earthquake, like Hurricane Katrina, is a reminder that catastrophe is never foreseeable and does not discriminate by geography. Though hoping to never suffer such devastation, mitigating the risk of natural disaster should be a consideration for everyone. “the vast majority of homeowners...do not purchase earthquake insurance”

"Natural disasters can strike anywhere, anytime," says Damian Testa, president, New Jersey and Pennsylvania operations of leading risk management and insurance brokerage firm HUB International Northeast. "Someone living in New York, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania may think the risk of earthquakes is low because there hasn't been a severe quake there for decades. In reality, the Ramapo Seismic Zone sits atop earthquake fault lines that run through these states and can prove problematic anytime. Without insurance against the risk, one could suffer terrible financial consequences."

According to a statement from the Insurance Information Institute (I.I.I), “the United States is vulnerable to the same type of catastrophe [as Haiti] and is woefully uninsured.” I.I.I. further warns, “the vast majority of homeowners...do not purchase earthquake insurance”, even those living in seismic zones.

Many insurers do not offer coverage in high-risk locales, including East Coast areas that are only remotely exposed to the threat of hurricanes. HUB’s High Risk Homeowners' Coverage for Earthquake and Wind Storm offers insurance that protects against natural catastrophes and covers wind or flood exposures.

HUB identifies carriers willing to work with homeowners and business owners to fully assess each individual’s or entity’s risks and develop a comprehensive plan to protect against them. Adding earthquake coverage to a policy is typically inexpensive in the northeast region; however, windstorm coverage can be more costly and harder to come by.

For more information visit [www.riskfirewall.com](http://www.riskfirewall.com) or call Carol Stevens, MSCO, 914-251-1500.

**HUB International Northeast:**

Headquartered in New York, HUB International Northeast has more than 700 employees in offices throughout 13 regional locations in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. HUB is a full service insurance brokerage offering a wide variety of products and services in the following areas: property & casualty; employee benefit plans, administration & consulting; and personal insurance. As a leading brokerage in the New York tri-state area, HUB International Northeast experts have been crafting quality insurance programs for businesses and individuals for over 55 years. HUB International Northeast is the New York-based operation of HUB International Limited, a top 10 global insurance brokerage firm.