

# SAFETY SENSE

## Security Chests And Files Protect Important Documents And Valuables From Natural Disasters

(NAPSA)—Consumers concerned about safeguarding their important documents and other valuables from such disasters as wildfires and floods should know a few facts and statistics.

Each year, wildfires ravage thousands of structures, claiming millions of dollars worth of damages. According to 2004 data from the National Interagency Coordination Center, more than eight million acres burned as a result of 65,461 wildfires. According to research done by the National Climatic Data Center, over the past 15 years, floods and hurricanes in the U.S. have resulted in damages nearing \$2 billion.

Consumers can safeguard their important documents from natural disasters by centralizing the material in a fire-resistant, waterproof container. Sentry Group offers a variety of sizes and styles that provide fire resistance and waterproof protection, so you can recover your documents quickly. Whether they are paper or stored electronically on a CD or DVD, your documents remain protected.

What types of things should you think about safeguarding? Think about items you might need to make an insurance claim after disaster hits, such as your insurance policy, itemized household inventory and financial records. Sentry®Safe Fire-Safe® security chests and files are available for storing essential documents—including birth certificates, passports, photographs, titles and registrations, investment paperwork,



**Some specialized containers accommodate hanging file folders to enhance organization while providing a storage option to protect documents from fire or water damage.**

religious documents, stocks and bonds—that are important to have on hand when you need them.

The company's products carry a UL classification for fire endurance, meaning that the interior of the unit and its contents are guarded from heat during a typical fire, for a specified time. Each model has a waterproof seal, insulating the interior from water, and a spring latch that seals the unit, even when unlocked. This means that your documents can be protected and you can have one less thing to worry about in a disaster.

Don't leave your important documents vulnerable to natural disasters. It's better to be safe than sorry. For a list of top 10 tips for disaster preparedness, visit [www.sentrysafe.com/disaster-preparedness/](http://www.sentrysafe.com/disaster-preparedness/).