

# **FORENSIC DATA COLLECTION: FOR FAILURE ANALYSIS TO ESTIMATE WIND SPEEDS GENERATED BY TORNADOES, HURRICANES AND OTHER WINDSTORMS**

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The ASCE/SEI/AMS Standards Committee on Estimating Wind Speeds in Tornadoes and Other Windstorms is developing a new standard to document methods for estimating wind speeds in tornadoes and other windstorms by direct measurements and indirectly via damage to the natural and built environments.

Chapter 5 (draft) of the new standard provides procedures for estimating wind speeds generated by windstorms, based on forensic engineering analysis of data collected during field investigations. Section 5.9 (draft) addresses data collection prior to field investigation, field investigation and data collection after the field investigation. Forensic data collection is required for analysis, as discussed in Sections 5.7 and 5.8.

This presentation will address field data collection, by providing examples of items to investigate. The presentation is intended to be a primer for investigators who have limited experience in collecting field data for forensic analysis.

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