



WORLD WIDE WEAVE

Hurricane Irene:

GKD media façade warns citizens of New York

At 9 a.m. (3 p.m. MESZ) the calm before the storm in New York was literally over. With a wind speed of 150 kilometers per hour, Hurricane Irene advanced along the East Coast of the United States toward the city. As a tropical storm with “only” 100 kilometers per hour Irene hit the metropolis causing severe flooding and electric power outages.

As a precaution, Mayor Michael Bloomberg declared a state of emergency for the Big Apple initiating the evacuation of areas at risk. For the first time in the history of the city public transportation was shut down. Widely visible warnings against the hurricane and the resulting suspension of service on subways and buses were shown at the **Mediamesh®** façade by GKD – Gebr. Kufferath AG, which had been installed at the Port Authority Bus Terminal a couple of weeks ago. Once the water has been drained from the flooded stations, public transportation can be put into service again.

GKD’s managing partner Stephan Kufferath was one of those experiencing the hurricane first hand. Due to the closing of all airports in the city, his return flight from New York to Germany was cancelled. “The people were very disciplined, the city got off with a slap on the wrist,” he wrote. He was particularly glad that the **Mediamesh®** façade by GKD has proven its test under those conditions. “The vibration of the storm was entirely absorbed by the spring assemblies, the LED boards did not fail.” With great relief he added that the factory of GKD USA in Cambridge, Maryland survived the destructive storm unscathed.



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As a privately owned technical weaver, GKD - Gebr. Kufferath AG is the world market leader in metal, synthetic and spiral mesh solutions. Four independent business divisions bundle their expertise under one roof: Industrial Mesh (woven metal mesh and filter solutions), Process Belts (belts made of mesh and spirals), Architectural meshes (façades, safety and interior design made of metal fabrics) and Mediamesh® (Transparent media façades). With its headquarter in Germany and five other facilities in the US, South Africa, China, India and Chile – as well as its branches in France, Spain, Dubai and worldwide representatives, GKD is close to markets anywhere in the world.

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