

# Chapter 34 Vehicle and Property Insurance

## BusinessWeek Reader Case Study

### “The Fixer-Upper Fixes Up”

**Directions** Read the *BusinessWeek* Reader on page 607 of your textbook and answer the questions.

#### Literal Comprehension

1. What company did Ralph Kastner start in 1999?  
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2. Which hurricane damaged Mr. Kastner’s property and assets?  
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3. How much equipment and vehicle damage did Mr. Kastner suffer from the hurricane?  
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4. How much money did Mr. Kastner borrow from a home-equity line of credit to stay open after the hurricane?  
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#### Making Inferences

5. What type of demand would there be for power washers, boom lifts, and other equipment that Tuff Equipment offered in the months following the hurricane? Explain your answer.  
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6. Why do you think Mr. Kastner made the decision to run his company out of a trailer and fill orders by hand after the hurricane?  
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#### Critical Thinking

7. If you were a business owner in a region of the country prone to environmental disaster, do you feel that it would be important to pay for expensive insurance that would protect your assets in case of a disaster? Explain your answer.  
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