

Hemp and nothing but Hemp.

September 2016 (Berlin/Johannesburg)

Production has begun on the long awaited sample material for the 'Low Cost Housing' project in South Africa. The first boards, perhaps the largest ever examples of engineered hemp fibre (no synthetic binder) panels seen to date have been produced. The boards measure 190 x 45 cm wide and are of differing densities and thicknesses. They are formed using only waste components of the hemp plant after it has been striped for first class fibres which are used in the textile industry. Insulation boards, building boards and finishing 'laminates' have been formed using the new end product production system at Zelfo Technology's fibre development centre. Using this new fibre formation system, production of boards is now one step shorter.

House of Hemp, Zelfo Technology's partner in South Africa has secured funding for the project, which not only includes the building of the Low Cost Housing prototype but also brings in access to a customised fibre-processing centre where state of the art machinery provides the best quality and cleanest fibre sources. This centre will be the first location for the Zelfo plant in the near future.

Thandeka Kunene, CEO of House of Hemp commented, "this is what the last two years have been leading to, with these affordable hemp based materials we can finally reach our goal of providing suitable housing for those that really need it in South Africa."



Low density engineered hemp fibre board (above)

Medium density engineered hemp fibre (right)
Behind (r) high density laminate.



All samples natural finish.