

FIRST DRAFT RELEASE

### **AfriSam launches an environmentally-friendly cement**

AfriSam, a leading producer of building materials in southern Africa, has introduced the Eco Building Cement, an environmentally friendly cement which has halved the world's average carbon footprint for cement.

"AfriSam has long been committed to introducing a green product," explains Mike McDonald, AfriSam's cement product technical manager. "We have invested significantly in research to develop and implement a CO<sub>2</sub> measurement system on all our cement products and the production of Eco Building Cement complements this drive." The Eco Building Cement is a blend of high performance cement and carbon-neutral mineral components.

Remarkably durable, Eco Building Cement is designed to provide a smooth, defect-free finish for concrete, masonry and plaster work. It can be used in aggressive conditions and offers improved resistance to sulphate and chloride attack, preventing the early failure of concrete. It is ideal both for soil stabilisation applications and rendering work.

When diluted with sand, stone and water in a typical plaster, mortar or concrete mix, the carbon footprint of the Eco Building Cement is reduced to between 75 and 175g/kg "The overall carbon footprint of this cement stands at 453g/kg, , which is almost half the world average of 890g/kg, and remarkably low compared to the 1000 tonnes produced by South Africa every 1.2 minutes," continues McDonald, " We have achieved this without compromising on the quality required by SABS for a cement in this strength class."

Tests indicate two, seven and 28-day strengths of 11.OMPa, 25.OMPa and 44.OMPa respectively, with excellent long-term strengths due to the slagment content in the product.

This CEM III A 32,5N Blast Furnace Cement complies fully with EN 197 and SANS 50197 specifications. It is available in convenient 20kg bags suitable for smaller jobs as well as in the traditional 50kg bag for the building market.

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