

USE-IT COMPRESSED EARTH BLOCKS: SUMMARY ASSESSMENT 2015

Resources				
Raw materials	Waste soil spoil	Crushed builders rubble or other inert waste	Cement	
Nature of raw materials	Reused	Recycled	Virgin	
% of raw materials in the final product	70%	25%	5%	
% of recycled content	90%-100%	90%-100%	0%	
Location of resource extraction	Locally (100km)	Locally (100km)	Locally (100km)	
Type of transport used to move the raw materials to the place of manufacturing?	TRUCK	TRUCK	TRUCK	
Additional environmental benefits / Innovation	Waste soil from cut and fill operations or similar (which is normally sent to landfill) is used instead of mined clay-bearing soils. For the 25% aggregate blend USE-IT uses crushed inert waste diverted from landfill. Builder's rubble, crushed glass or ceramics, fly ash and mine tailings have all been used successfully. The 5% cement component can also be substituted with lime, where and when available.			

Manufacturing	Comments	
% use of energy from renewable resources	0%	
Energy use per ton of product	0 kwh/ton	
Water use per ton of product	0.0 kl/ton	
Has any of the following been implemented:		
Environmental Policy/Management system	Yes	Waste Management and Environmental Policy Document
Cleaner Production System	No	
Green Procurement Policy	Yes	It is the nature of the business to support all recycled and green products, however, there is no policy in place.

Environmental Awareness Policy	Yes	Environmental awareness demonstrated however, no policy in place.
Waste Management Policy	Yes	The entire business is about sorting, storing and using waste materials through beneficiation projects to create jobs.
CSI Projects	Yes	See website www.use-it.co.za
Is the project manufactured in South Africa?	Yes	
Additional environmental benefits / Innovation		

Product	Comments	
Does the product use electricity?	No	
Does it increase energy efficiency or reduce energy consumption?	Both	High thermal mass and thermal inertia of Compressed Earth Block buildings keeps structures cool in summer and warmer in winter. This is not documented, but forms part of plans for future independent tests.
% of reduction of water use	N/A	
Harmful emissions during use?	No	
Does the product contain Volatile Organic Compound (VOC)?	No	
Additional environmental benefits / Innovation		

Packaging & Distribution	Comments			
	Primary	Secondary		
Materials used for packaging	Wood pallet	Shrink-wrap		
Packaging material	Wood	PP or LDPE		
Nature of the source of packaging	Reused	Virgin		
% of recycled content of packaging	90%-100%	0%		
Is the package reusable or recyclable?	Reusable	Recyclable		

Is there a takeback policy for your packaging?	Yes	USE-IT retrieves and reuses all pallets, where possible
Is there a plan to reduce packaging?	Yes	A packaging reuse policy is in place and broken pallets are fixed for further use.
Distance from manufacturing plant to market of final product	Locally (100km)	
Type of transport used to move the product from the manufacturing plant to market	TRUCK	
Additional environmental benefits / Innovation		

End-of-life/Recyclability		Comments
Expected lifespan of product	>20yrs	
Can the product be easily separated into its single components for repair, re-use or recycling?	Yes	
% of the product that can be reused	25%-30%	
% of the product that can be recycled	90%-100%	
Support or take back system for re-processing or responsible disposal of product	No	
Any emissions or harmful substances released into the environment during the disassembly or degradation of the finished product?	No	
Additional environmental benefits / Innovation		