

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Respect

Recycling is very important as waste has a negative impact on our natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses that are released from rubbish at our landfill sites are large contributors to global warming. The message to the building industry is very clear - recycle as much as possible, which includes buying products with recycled content.

Errol Louw – Manager of the Masonry Division at Inca Concrete Products says, “We are committed to a healthy environment and our goal is to manufacture the highest quality concrete masonry products available in an environmentally sound manner. We strive to create products that provide exceptional durability, recyclability, and low maintenance with minimal impact on the environment.”

“Green” concrete is very often cheaper to produce, because waste products are used as a partial substitute for aggregate, land-fills are avoided, energy consumption in production is lowered, and durability is improved.



Low cost housing development in Mitchells Plain

Louw added “With the desperate demand for Low Cost housing – these savings can be passed through to the developer and ultimately to the home owner.

Inca Concrete Products has made a substantial investment in recycling machinery and specialized equipment and are producing a wide range of aggregates that are used in various concrete blocks and pavers. One of Inca's most popular products is their natural looking Aggregate pavers which use various fine and course aggregates to produce different textures and finishes.

“Green” concrete is another name for resource-saving concrete products and structures, which has a reduced environmental impact with regard to energy consumption, emissions, waste water and CO₂ generation. Fly ash, slag cement, and silica fume are industrial by-

products; their use as a partial replacement for Portland cement significantly reduces the energy and CO2 impacts of cement in concrete. If not used in concrete, these materials would use valuable landfill space. Fly ash, slag cement and silica fume replacements can reduce **greenhouse gas emissions** by up to 45%.

Louw concluded by saying, "At Inca Concrete Products our management maintains a strong focus on initiatives such as meeting or exceeding "**Green Building**" environmental laws and regulations. We continually seek ways to efficiently use materials and energy and to reduce waste and emissions and to promote products that contribute to our environment and water conservation in a positive way. Over and above this we encourage and train our employees to conduct their activities in an environmentally responsible manner. Recycling is one of the ways that we at Inca can have a positive impact on the world in which we live.

Written by Beth McKellar-Basset

Communications and Media Consultant for Inca Concrete Products