Hemp absorbs nearly twice its dry weight in CO2 during growth, providing a lower carbon footprint to all materials it is used to create.

Two materials are produced from the Hemp plant stem, fibres from the outer bark and wood chips from the core.

The Hemp fibres are used to seal plumbing joints and are combined with a small percentage of other fibres to produce insulation matting.

Hemp wood chips or hurds are mixed with lime based binders to create a breathable masonry material called hempcrete. This is used to build monolithic walls and floors and to fill roof cavities.

Hemp board is also manufactured from hemp hurds and used in construction.

Hemp bricks can be made from hurds mixed with lime, gypsum or clay. Prebaricated panels can also be cast from hempcrete.

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HEMP BUILDING SYSTEMS

Hempcrete can be cast manually around a timber frame using a shuttering system. This creates a uniform envelope to the structure which achieves a high standard of insulation and consequent low energy consumption with additional health benefits especially humidity regulation.

Local styles of vernacular buildings can be easily built with Hempcrete bricks.

Hempcrete bricks have the capability of being self-supporting removing the need for a timber frame.

Hempcrete can also be sprayed into position more quickly and produces a superior material that sets and dries out in less time than when applied manually. Sprayed Hempcrete uses less water and the composition of the material is more uniform.

Hemp fibre insulation provides a superior alternative to other fibre insulation materials and is used in passive house construction for its non-toxicity. It is also ideal for retrofitting existing buildings.

Join the I.H.B.A. and help promote the use of Hemp materials for building throughout the world.

go to;

www.internationalhempbuilding.org

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