

CEMENT AND CONCRETE

Italian range for affordable housing

The Italian construction transport vehicle specialist, Fiori, signed a deal with Pan Mixers to offer top quality equipment for the local building and construction industry, says Walter Ebeling, director of Pan Mixers.

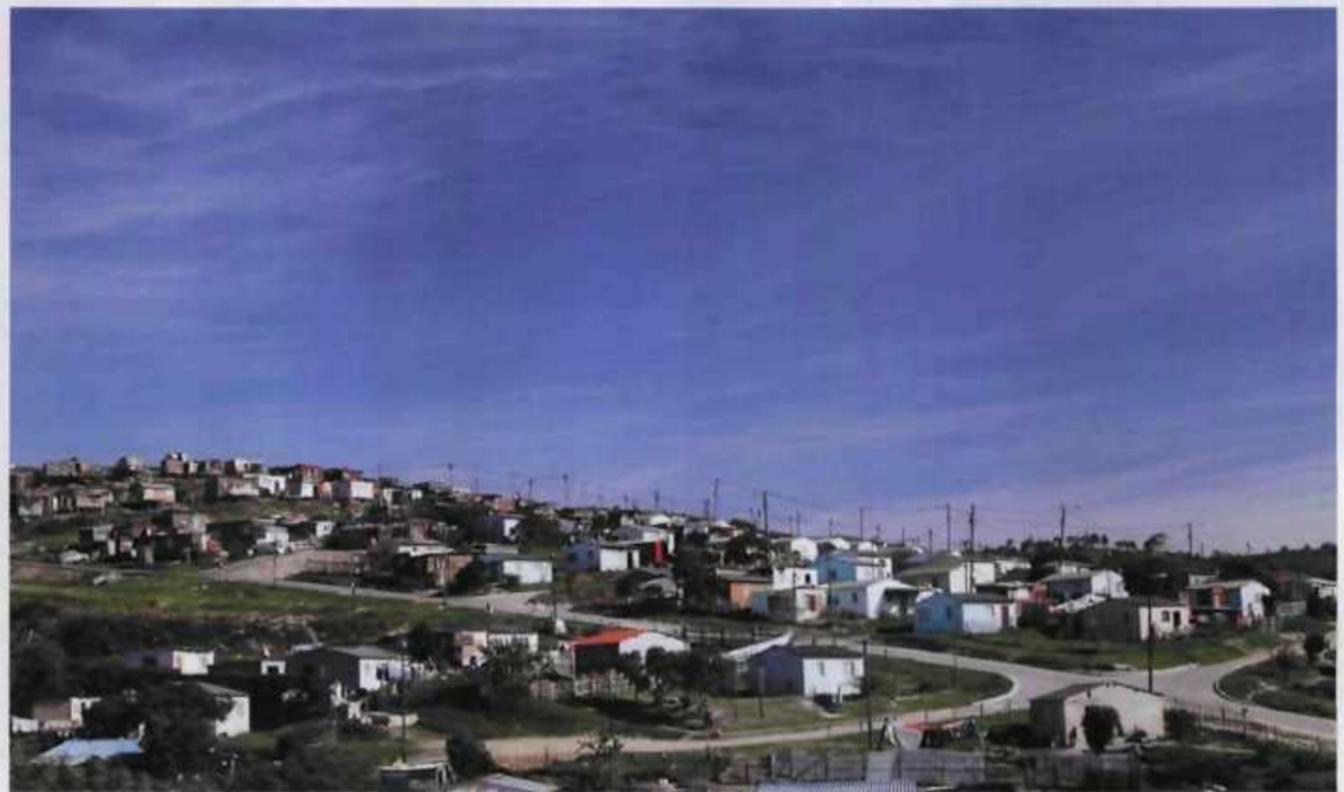
Making its debut in South Africa in the next few weeks is the super-strong Fiori self-loading concrete mixer range that is equipped to handle South Africa's toughest terrain and batch quality concrete in the most remote areas.

Ebeling says, "This equipment is ideal for mixing high-quality concrete, without having a massive concrete batching plant or a large labour force. To be able to mix your own quality concrete in rural areas or Greenfields sites means cutting down the costs and logistics involved in transporting ready mixed product."

In this instance, 'small' shouldn't be confused with 'unproductive': The Unis produce between 10 000 and 14 000 bricks per shift; the RE600 produces 28 000 in the same time span; and the VB1 produces 50 000 bricks.

These hydraulically- operated, stand-alone machines are able to scoop, load, mix, transport and place concrete independently, while being operated by a single person. They are also easy to manoeuvre, making them suitable for the concrete lining of canals and tunnels, road works, building construction sites, low cost housing sites and other infrastructure projects.

"Customers can also opt for the on-board



electronic weighing system which ensures that every batch is identical in quality and weight, with a receipt printed out for every operation to keep as a permanent record," Ebeling explains. "The mixing drum has a double auger system that mixes concrete very intensely and prevents material segregation, giving a superb quality end product." The Fiori



design allows the driving station to rotate so that the driver can turn the seat and load bucket, and also check the texture of the concrete without having to get out of the cabin. "These mixers have their own loading bucket and are mounted on a mixing truck, which drives the bucket into the sand and stone stockpile and loads itself.

Bigger models offer four-wheel drive with hydrostatics that enables them to handle rough terrain, ideal for local conditions," says Ebeling.

Pan Mixers will be offering the entire range of Fiori self loading mixers, from the 1.1 m³ capacity to the 4 m³ machines. "The advantage of small equipment like this is that cement can be batched immediately, eliminating down-time spent waiting for deliveries.