



VB4 block machines with product on production board

The Brick-of-choice for Affordable Housing Projects

Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA) has been at the forefront of the maxi brick's success by supplying its range of brick-making equipment to manufacturers nationwide.

The solid maxi brick comes in dimensions of 290 mm x 140 mm x 90 mm, although various other sizes are also available. "The unique design of the brick allows a brick layer to lay a single skin 140 mm wall in one process, as opposed to a double skin external wall made from stock bricks," says PMSA marketing and sales manager, Quintin Booysen.

Local building standards require a 90 mm thick internal wall, and Quintin notes that the maxi brick can be turned on its edge to build internal walls too. "This speeds up the construction process significantly, as only a single skin is required to satisfy the national building regulation of South Africa."

A typical affordable house requires between 2 800 to 3 000 maxi bricks for the internal and external walls, compared with 8 000 to 9 000 standard stock bricks for a similar sized house.

"By simply turning the brick on its edge for internal walls, maximum space utilisation inside the structure is achieved by avoiding thick walls that would otherwise have taken up valuable floor-space in an already small housing unit," he continues.

Quintin adds that this innovative method of construction enables a small team of just two bricklayers and two assistants to erect a structure between 32 m² to 40 m² in area in a single day.

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