

Production boosted

A concrete-block producer is gearing up for the good times.

Laman Resources operates six quarries in the Eastern Cape where it mines speckled dolomite to be crushed into an aggregate and used for the manufacture of ready-mix, bricks and blocks.

Theunis O' Kelly, manufacturing manager for Laman Resources, points out that the company predominantly converts the aggregate into M140 concrete blocks, for the low-cost housing market, with two PMSA VB4-X block-making machines.

"Both VB4-X machines were installed in the brickyard last year and have proven to be highly reliable in an extremely challenging working environment where they run for 10 hours per day, six days per week."

Laman Resources is able to achieve an output of

60 000 blocks per day which has placed the company in a highly competitive position, adds O'Kelly.

Looking at the year ahead, O'Kelly believes that the South African housing market appears to be strong.

Laman Resources expects to generate the majority of its revenue from RDP projects in the Eastern Cape, he says.

"With thousands of new homes due to be constructed during the course of 2011, Laman Resources is well positioned to be the prime supplier to the industry," says O'Kelly. "The company has a cost-effective manufacturing process and it is also able to produce higher volumes of material in shorter lead times than its competitors are able to do."