

H+H Information Sheet

Sustainability

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Recycled Raw Materials

Since their introduction in the late 1950s, Aircrete products have won rapid acceptance throughout the building industry.

Aircrete is produced by mixing Pulverised Fuel Ash (PFA) with water to create a slurry, which is pumped into a mixer where binders (cement and lime) are added, along with a minute quantity of Aluminium Powder. As little as 1% of the raw materials used in the production of H+H UK's products are imported from overseas.

Our production plants are located strategically to ensure that bulk raw materials and finished products have less distance to travel and in this way, our products support the British economy as well as reducing the environmental impact of transport.

Pulverised Fuel Ash

Accounts for up to 80% of the material used in the manufacture of H+H aircrete products. PFA is a by-product of coal-fired power stations, most of which would otherwise be sent for landfill.

Water

A comprehensive water management system is in place at the company's Pollington (Yorkshire) factory that utilises water from sustainable sources, rainwater and canal water and is used together with wastewater from the manufacturing process. At H+H UK's other factories wastewater from the manufacturing process is also recycled, which significantly reduces the quantity of water that needs to be drawn from mains supplies.

Aluminium powder

Aircrete relies on an aerated structure for its lightweight and outstanding insulation properties. H+H UK uses recycled Aluminium powder to produce the chemical reaction that creates the aerated structure. A small amount of Aluminium powder is added and the mix as it is poured. The addition of the Aluminium creates a chemical reaction that produces heat and Hydrogen. The Hydrogen creates the non-interconnecting cellular structure of the material making the poured mix rise whilst the heat makes it harden.

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Aircrete

Once the PFA, water and Aluminium are mixed and rested, the resulting 'green' material is cut to size and placed into an Autoclave to be cured, it is then ready to be shipped to our customers throughout the UK.

As well as reducing the quantity of raw materials per m2 of product used, the aerated structure is also lightweight. As the cells are not interconnecting, the product offers excellent sound insulation, superb thermal insulation, airtightness and provides a natural barrier to water ingress. It also offers a resistance to sulfate in soils and gives the strength and robustness of a concrete block. It will not burn yet is workable with hand tools.

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