**PRESS RELEASE**

**Thanks to their new factory, IsoHemp has increased their production capacity fivefold and is resolutely committed to sustainability**

Fernelmont, 14 September 2021

In the context of climate change, the urgent need to decarbonise the construction sector and in order to meet the growing demand for hemp blocks, IsoHemp is opening a new 2 hectare factory, just a stone's throw away from the old one. With this brand new factory, IsoHemp will increase its production to 5,000,000 blocks per year and thus reach the strict quality standards of the construction sector*.*

**Towards a sustainable construction sector**

In recent months, we have been drastically confronted with the consequences of climate change, which once again demonstrates the urgency of changing not only our behaviour but also our ways of operating. In addition to better recyclability of buildings, compensation for scarce resources and energy renovation, reducing the CO2 impact in the construction sector is one of the European pillars towards a sustainable world.

“*The new factory must also be understood in the logic of a more sustainable world," explains Olivier Beghin, one of the founders of IsoHemp. "Building a house with hemp blocks is an affordable, healthy and sustainable alternative to the conventional way of building, with a much lower CO2 impact. With our new factory, we increase our quality standard and production capacity of hemp blocks by 400%, which in turn will allow us to build five houses per day and eventually up to 1,800 houses per year. In this way, we will make a significant contribution to the decarbonisation of the construction sector and the achievement of the ambitious European climate targets.”*

**The new factory and its investors**

The new production facility covers an area of two hectares, next to the old factory, and represents an investment of 5 million Euros.

For the development of the new plant, IsoHemp was able to rely on its investors.

This project was financially supported by Nomainvest and Cheniclem Private Equity, the investment holdings of the Noël and Jolly families, the SRIW (Société Régionale d'Investissement de Wallonie), the newly acquired JCMLA Holding (represented by Sophie Leclercq of CIT Blaton), Tharsos Invest (founders of Mainsys Group) and the founders. This group of investors is positioned as strategic partners in accompanying IsoHemp over the long term in order to help the company reach new growth milestones.

**Growing demand**

*“As everyone realises the urgency to act and live differently, we clearly see a growing demand for the hemp block," according to Beghin. "This development is not specific to Europe either, as we are receiving requests from all over the world, from the United States to Australia, and from South Africa to Russia. We now have a factory that is unique in the world to respond to this development. And we have every reason to believe that this demand will continue to grow in the years to come. ”*

*In the longer term, IsoHemp plans to set up new factories. "If we really want to work sustainably, transporting the hemp blocks over distances longer than 500 to 800 km doesn't make sense, we prefer to give priority to the short circuit.”*

It is obvious that this new production site opens up many perspectives for IsoHemp, the world leader in hemp blocks. On the one hand, the possibility to meet the growing demand from all over the world, on the other hand, a deeper Belgian anchorage through its shareholding and its philosophy of preserving the short circuit for an irreproachable product quality.

*(End)*

About IsoHemp

IsoHemp was founded in 2012 by Olivier Beghin, Jean-Baptiste de Mahieu and Anthony De Mot. The Fernelmont-based company manufactures hemp blocks for the construction and renovation sectors. IsoHemp is positioned as the ideal partner for a decarbonised construction.

With environmental performance, proximity and efficiency as core values, IsoHemp reinvents construction and renovation with natural, sustainable and high quality solutions.

IsoHemp offers its customers sustainable, high-performance insulating envelope solutions for all new construction and renovation projects, in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors. It works exclusively with local suppliers.

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