



FIBER ROOFING

South African Manufacturer & Exporter of Thatch Products



Contact & Postal Info:

Tel: +27 11 903 9204

Fax: +27 12 212 2341

Web: www.fiberroofing.com

E-mail: info@fiberroofing.com

P.O.Box 639, Alberton, 1450

FACTORY ADDRESS: INDUSTRIAL SITE - R59, KLIPRIVER, 1871, GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA

FIBER THATCH ROOF - FREGATE ISLAND, SEYCHELLES



INTRODUCTION TO FIBER THATCH SYNTHETIC THATCH

For the past 30 years we have been actively building thatched roofs all over the world. Although Thatched roofs are extremely beautiful and appealing, unfortunately they are also very labor intensive both during the initial construction as well as during the required regular maintenance faces.

THE PROBLEM

Believing strongly in providing the best quality thatched roof, we have always been investigating methods of improving the quality of the end product provided



to our clients. It became very clear to us that the real problem with thatched roofs was the natural reeds, grasses and palm leaves that were being used during the thatch process.

The main reason being that, the natural reeds, grasses and palm leaves are essentially dead once they have been harvested to be used for thatching of roofs. This dead plant material can no longer protect itself against the elements of nature the way it was able to when the material was still attached to the plants they have been harvested from.

Once these natural reeds, grasses and palm leaves lose their moisture and dry out the natural degrading process is initiated and the material starts composting. This happens due to the retention of moisture during torrential rain and condensation caused by temperature fluctuations between day time and night time. When this wet moisture filled natural reeds, grasses and palm leaves are exposed to the UV rays of the sun, the natural rotting process occurs.

Geographically the areas in the world that have higher rainfall or higher humidity yield shorter life spans for thatched roofs. The sun's UV ray penetration, also varies around the world, influenced by many different factors. As explained moisture in combination with the UV rays are the death sentence to thatched roofs.

THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM

Over the years we have investigated many alternative-thatching materials with out any difference to the eventual outcome. It became very clear to us that the only solution that will work is to find a synthetic material that can be used for thatching. Since 1996 we have seriously experimented with numerous materials and methods and firmly believe we have developed the absolute best thatch roof product in the world.

Not only does our Fiber Thatch Polyolefin look exactly like the real McCoy but it is far superior in terms of longevity and durability when compared to any thing available in the world market today.

VERSATILITY

Fiber Thatch Polyolefin is the only synthetic imitation thatch system, which provides the user an option on the desired finish, our product caters both for a tropical finish as well as a traditional thick grass edge finish.

One of the greatest advantages of Fiber thatch polyolefin is that it can be fitted on top of just about any type of roof covering. Fiber Thatch has been used very successfully on corrugated sheeting as well as IBR profile metal roofing. Another very popular roofing method in the Cyclone belts around the world is concrete



cast roofs. Fiber Thatch Polyolefin is the ideal roofing cover to clad these ugly concrete roofs with and we have a long list of very happy users that have used this option on their resorts and homes.

Fiber Thatch Polyolefin is also ideal for converting existing thatch roofs with the durable synthetic thatch that our product provides. Even brand new thatch structures can be erected that provides a genuine thatch look both on the interior as well as the exterior. This is achieved by combining the Fiber thatch Polyolefin exterior with our very popular shutter-ply boarding with its natural "Cape Reed" finish on the interior face of the boards.

Fiber Thatch polyolefin is very user friendly in that is extremely easy to install and no special equipment is required to prepare any of the Fiber thatch Polyolefin tiles for application on to roof valleys or roof hips. Neither is any special Fiber thatch Polyolefin tiles required for any specific areas on the roof. Our Polyurethane binding element is pliable and therefore very easy to ensure that the applicator can follow the roof undulation with out having to stop and adjust the tile for fitment.

Were a potential client has an average maintenance crew; installation can very easily be done in-house, after such a crew has received the bare minimum of instruction. We have numerous resorts where the customers have used their own staff to do the Fiber Thatch Polyolefin application after a Fiber Roofing technician has instructed them on the installation method.

Fiber Thatch Polyolefin is by far the greenest (Ecologically Friendly) product when compared to any other synthetic thatch material available in the world market today.

Although we as the manufacturer have various standard color combinations available in Fiber Thatch Polyolefin, if so desired any color can be achieved to accommodate a customers needs.

CONVERTING EXISTING THATCH ROOFS

Please note that the trusses of a Fiber Thatch roof system are similar to most conventional roof systems as constructed in the U.S.A. & Europe. Also take note that the round pole trusses as used in Africa for a conventional Thatch Roof will work 100% with Fiber Thatch.

If a natural thatch roof interior finish is desired this can be created. A Thin layer of natural material can be laid on top of the normal battens to create that warm thatch look. This layer can be tied down with string or nailed in place with a thin strip of timber on top of the roof battens holding the thatch layer in position. We



can offer Natural Thatch Grass, Cape Reed, Norfolk Reed, Makuti Palm, Alang Alang or Spanish Heather as an interior layer. The ceiling finish layer is very thin and meant only to hide away the marine ply or roof ply used for the base of installation on existing thatch roofs. This is achieved by affixing the marine ply or the roof ply onto the existing roof by screwing the sheets down onto the truss system.

We can also offer Cape Reed pre clad marine ply or exterior shutter ply boards that is laid with the natural reed finish facing the interior thus creating a conventional thatched finish, this option eliminates the need to thatch a thin layer of natural material before cladding the trusses.

Once the boards with the natural reed cladding or alternatively the marine ply or shutter ply has been screwed onto the ceiling layer it is then waterproofed with a 3mm to 4mm layer of rubber waterproofing that is sealed at all the overlapping joints by melting the layers together. The tiles are then stapled or nailed onto the waterproofed roof ply.

It is important to point out that, due to the fact that the backing strip of the tile is polyurethane rubber as well as the fact that the waterproof membrane is rubber, there will **never** be a leak when the tiles are nailed or stapled into position. The rubber forms a gasket and seals properly around all the nails and staples ensuring the waterproofing of the roof. **The thin layer of tile's only purpose is to create that "real authentic thatch finish".**

To create a "thick thatch look" we use "eave sections" on the edges of the roofs. These sections are available in either 125mm (±6") thickness or 230mm (9") thickness and are fastened in place with self-tapping screws. The eave sections are screwed onto bargeboards that are fitted to the roof edges or gable ends (parapets). *(See "Technical Bulletin-Fiber Eaves and Gables." Letter forwarded to you.)*

To create a "Tropical finish thatch look" we use additional Fiber Thatch polyolefin tiles on the edges of the roofs. Two additional tiles are fitted one on the top side and another to the extreme bottom edge of the roof, the result is a thicker drooping frayed finish. This finish is very popular with holiday resorts that want to create an authentic tropical ambiance. *(See "Technical Bulletin-Fiber Tropical Finish." Letter forwarded to you.)*

Because of the flexible polyurethane rubber strip, tiles can be folded "around" a gable end. This provides another finish. A good example where this method was used is the Chester Zoo Restaurant in the U.K.

Due to the fact that the tiles are so flexible no special tools are required to mold



tiles into place when they are being installed in valleys or over hips. The tiles will simply bend or fold into place.

On hips we do recommend that between every layer of tiles an additional half tile is fitted only to ensure a 100% coverage where the bending of the tile fan out.

Our Fiber Thatch Polyolefin tiles can be used on metal roofs such as IBR and corrugated sheet roofs, concrete cast roofs as well as on roof ply or marine ply boards. *(See "Technical Bulletin-Fiber Tiles fitted on IBR, Corrugated or Marine Ply Roofs." Letter forwarded to you.)*

We can also supply tiles that are fitted with clips. The purpose of the clips is to clip tiles where a customer desires to space the tiles leaving a gap between tiles and the sub-roof. **When tiles with clips are fitted it is very important to fit an additional spacing bar between each layer of rods.** This will lend extra support and prevent any sagging of tiles between rods when exposed to extreme temperatures. (This is also applicable where flat tiles are stapled to battens or where the tiles are raised from the sub roof)

A tile measures 800mm (32") x 450mm (18) but **cover** only 800mm (32") x 240mm (9.75"). It is important that the spacing should be exactly 230mm (9") and consistent all over the roof. If spacing is not consistent the natural thatch finish will not be achieved. For this spacing 5.2 tiles will be needed per square meter. To calculate the eave sections you measure the total length of the roofs perimeter and divide the total running meter by 450mm (18"). This will give you the required number of eave sections.

Study the section in our website that discusses how many tiles fit into a 20ft. container. Remember that you can only fit natural thatch grass or reed material for plus minus 150m² into a 20ft. container. It should be easy to realize that it is **very, very** economical to load Fiber Thatch because you can pack enough material to cover plus minus 2000 square meters into a 20ft. container.

We sell: **Polyolefin Fiber Thatch.**

Compared with PVC synthetic roof cover that our opposition sell, **Fiber Thatch Polyolefin** is a far superior product. Inspections on roofs done more than 10 years ago have shown **no color fading or texture changes.** Our **Polyolefin Fiber** passed the **UL 94 Fire tests with a V2 fire-rating** and recent test achieved the British DIN rating of Class B1 for fire rating.

COLOR CHOICES

Polyolefin: All the strands are extruded in two tones, which mean two colors in one strand.

Available colors are **Yellow**, which are made up of 80% Yellow/Green and 20%



Light Brown/Dark Brown strands.

Brown tiles are made up of 80% Light Brown/Dark Brown and 20% Yellow/Green strands.

Yellow/Brown tiles are made up of 50% Light Brown/Dark Brown and 50% Yellow/Green strands.

We can match and extrude any color on request.

NB!! Special colors can be done on request and special color matching to blend into environments is possible too.

WHY OUR TILES AND NOT TILES MADE BY OUR OPPOSITION?

Simply because our tiles are better-priced and far superior to any other synthetic thatch available in the world. We offer a 20 year limited warranty on Fiber Thatch Polyolefin.

