

## SUSTAINABLE, RESOURCE-SAVING, HIGH-QUALITY VPF EXPANDS SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME WITH 100 % HEMP PAPER

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In cooperation with Gmund Papier, the adhesive materials specialists at VPF in Sprockhövel are developing the first self-adhesive label stock made from 100 % hemp. The 120g/m<sup>2</sup> hemp paper consists of pure European hemp fibre and is another sustainable paper alternative to conventional papers made of wood. The paper is remarkable for its soft feel, excellent printability and improved waste paper cycle.

Hemp is one of the oldest cultivated plants on earth and was used early on for paper production. The Gutenberg Bible from 1455 was made of hemp paper, and until about 1880, 75–90 % of the world's paper demand was covered by hemp fibres.



Image 1: VPF Gmund Hanf 100%. Image source: Gmund.

Unlike trees, hemp grows quickly, can be cultivated without any problems and can be fully utilised. A hemp field has four to five times the yield of a forest of the same size. Hemp grows to a height of up to four metres within a year and can be harvested three times a year, producing more biomass than any other domestic crop. Since hemp fibre is naturally very light in colour, little bleaching agent is needed for subsequent paper production. Hemp is characterised by fibres that are five times as long as those of paper fibres, which means high tensile, tear and wet strength with accompanying long durability; at the same time the long fibres means hemp fibres improve the waste paper cycle and can be recycled particularly often, reports the paper manufacturer GMUND.

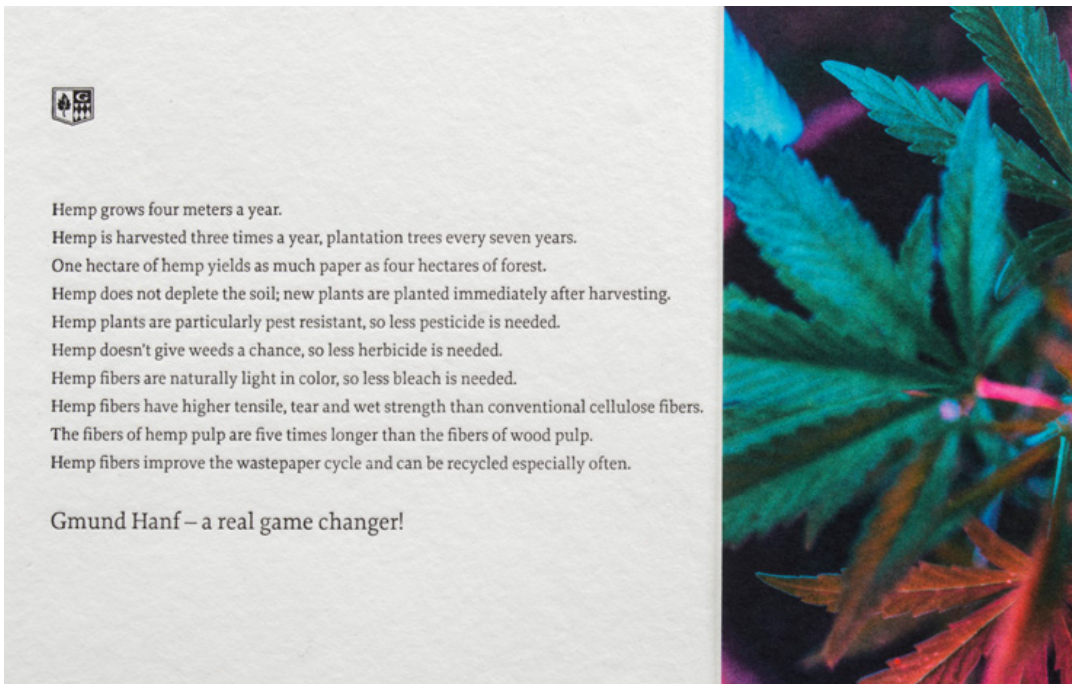


Image 2: The hemp paper advantages. Image source: Gmund.

After lengthy trials and ageing tests, VPF now coats the Gmund Hemp 100 % paper (VPF 10555) with a strongly adhesive UV acrylate, HM716UV with 25g application weight. Because of the strong final adhesion of the adhesive, the hemp adhesive material can also be reliably bonded to almost all more difficult substrates despite the relatively high grammage of 120g/m<sup>2</sup>.

To further optimise the carbon footprint, VPF exclusively uses a 70g recycled liner (NSA700-476) for the self-adhesive finish of the hemp paper, which consists of 70 % recycled content.

The new type of hemp adhesive material is now available from VPF starting at a minimum quantity of 500 m<sup>2</sup>. Sample rolls and A4 samples are available at any time.

**About VPF**

Since 1967, VPF has been supporting and shaping the European market for self-adhesive materials and coatings as an idea generator, partner and problem solver. Expertise and a strong focus on customer and market needs are the foundations on which the company develops innovative solutions. With state-of-the-art production facilities, dedication and flexibility, VPF turns these solutions into quality products for paper and film applications of all kinds. [www.vpf.de](http://www.vpf.de)

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