

# PRE-FABRICATED ABLUTION BLOCKS

## Field-testing of toilet system prototypes

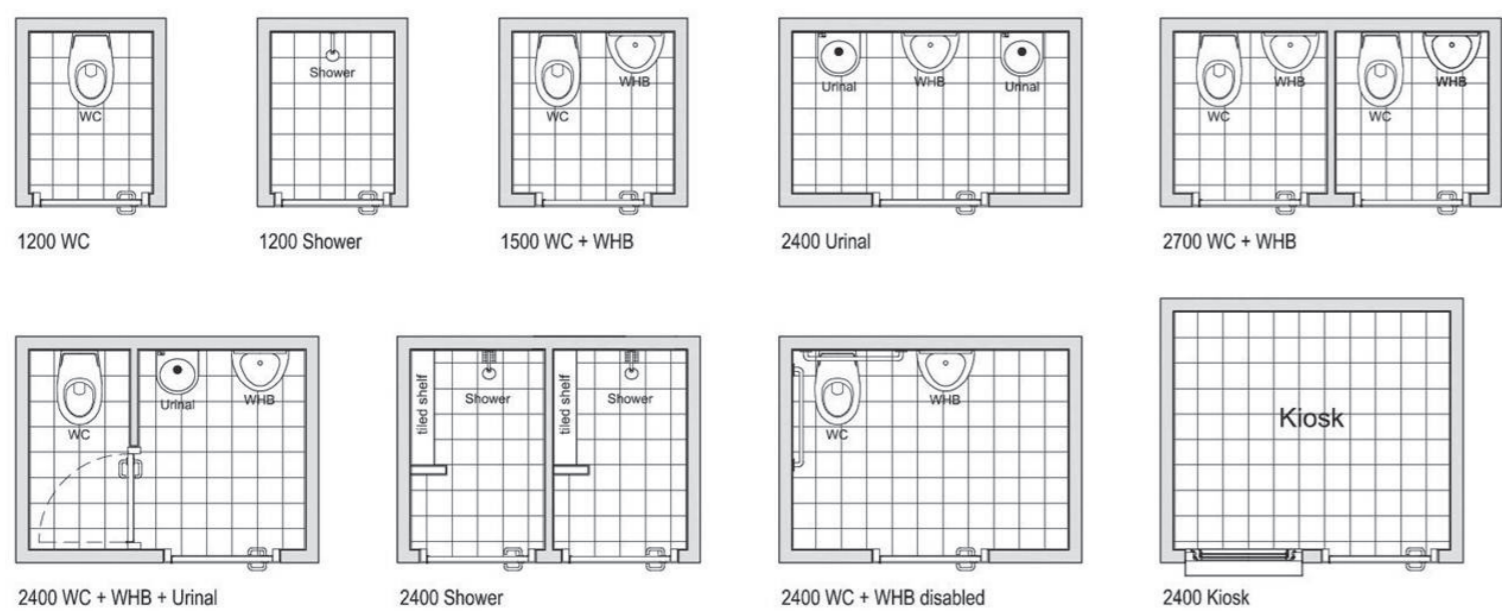
### Background

Prototype components of toilet systems (pedestals and unit treatment processes for excreta) will move through laboratory testing stages into field-testing programmes. Initial field-testing will require a relatively controlled environment. Purpose-built community ablation blocks can provide a space where different systems can be trialled by 'real' users whilst still allowing designers the flexibility to monitor and modify designs with relative ease.

Hering are designers and manufacturers of prefabricated sanitation systems. They are responsible for the design, construction and operation of public toilets in contexts including: city toilets, freeway toilets, community ablation blocks and school toilets. They have over 35 years experience working with public toilets, with over 6000 designed and built. They currently have approximately 570 public toilets in operation. Hering have a manufacturing facility outside Durban, South Africa.

### Pre-fabricated toilet modules

Toilet modules including individual cubicles, showers, urinal sections and operator kiosks are pre-fabricated in a factory and then transported to site for installation (Figures 1—4)



**FIGURE 1**  
Pre-fabricated toilet modules



**FIGURE 2**  
Manufacturing toilet modules in a factory



**FIGURE 3** Installation of modules on-site



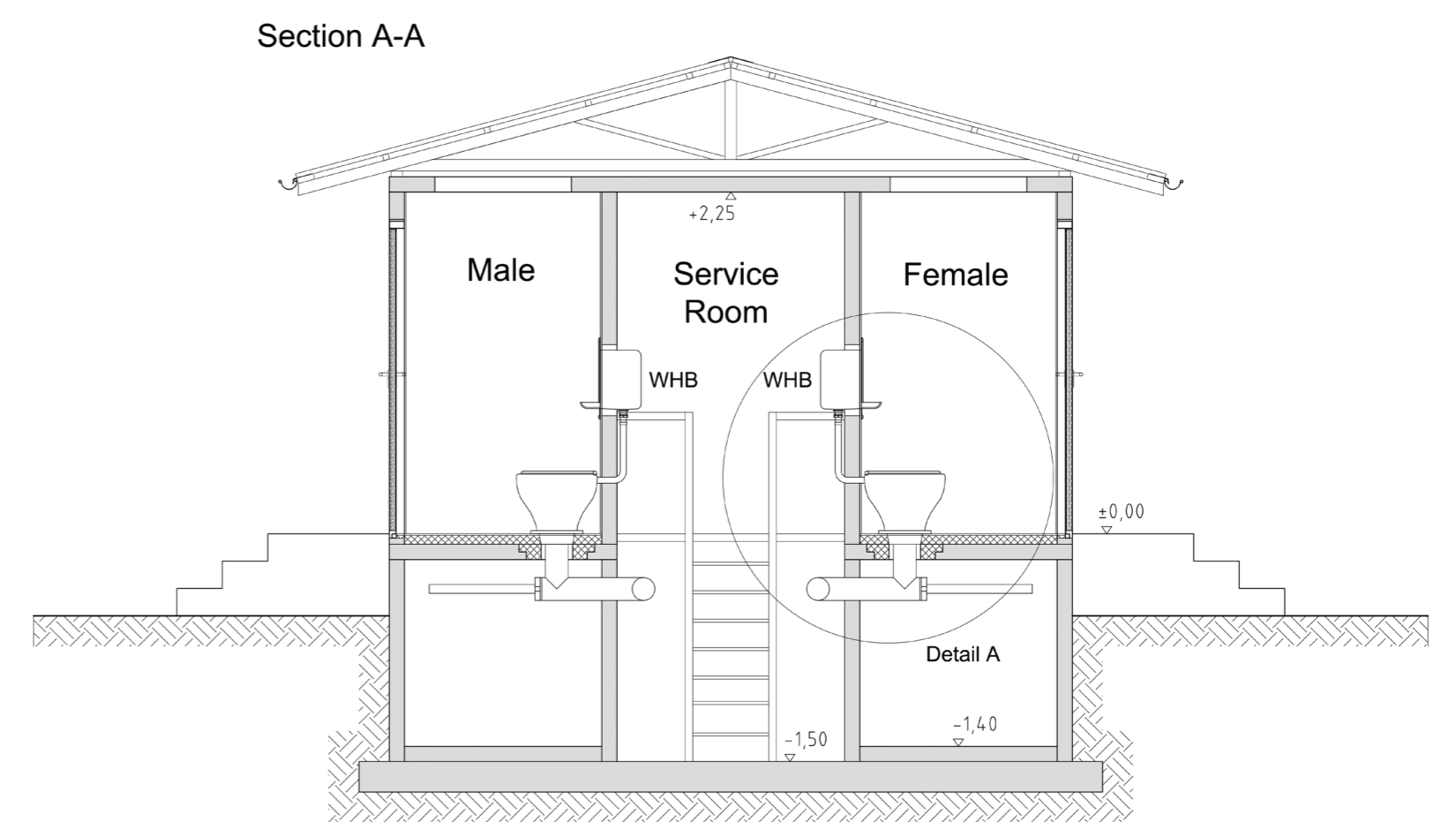
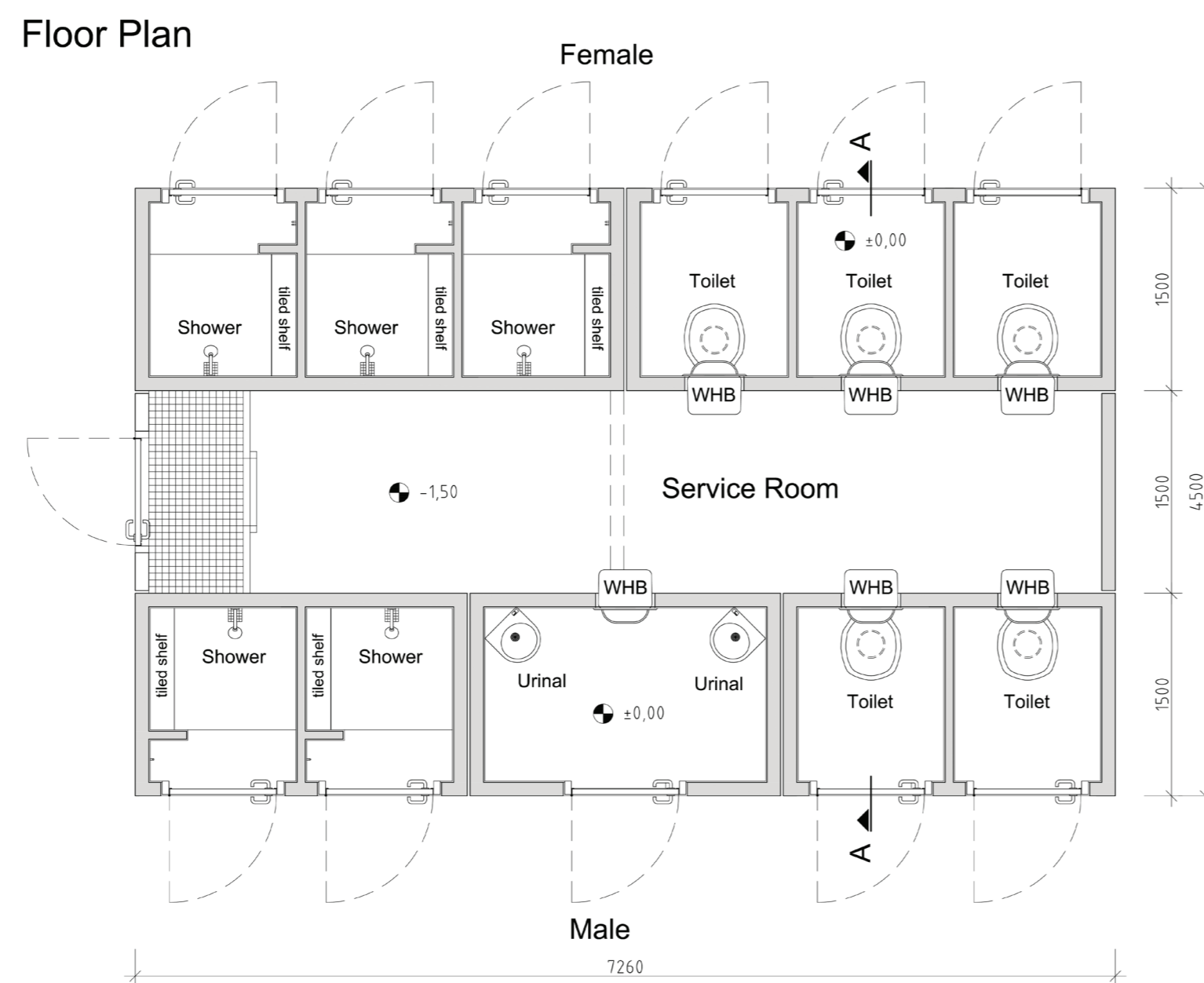
**FIGURE 5**  
Inside a cubicle of an existing Hering toilet. Fixtures protrude through the back wall into the service corridor.



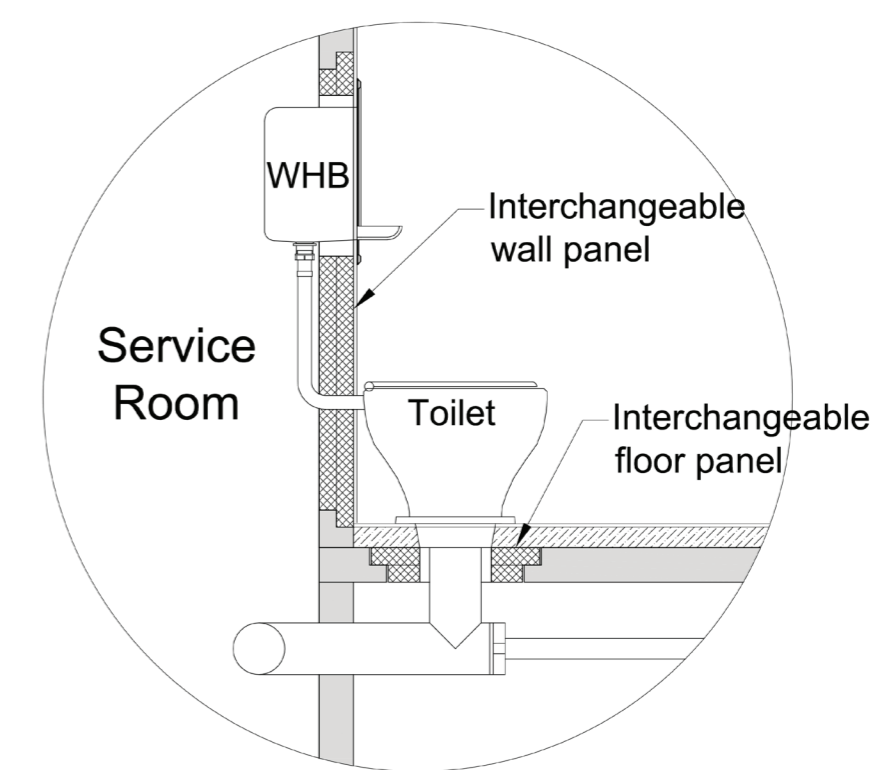
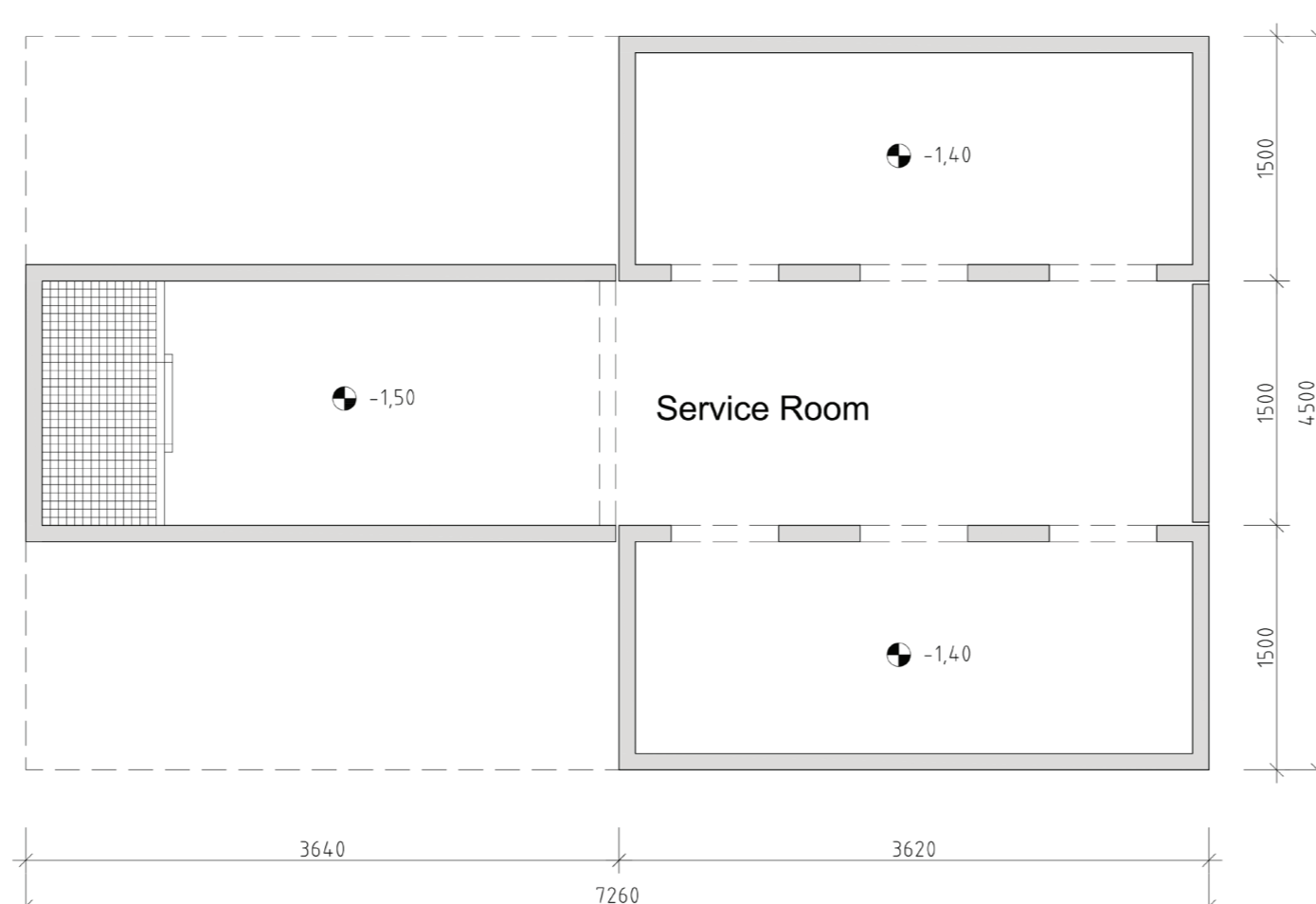
**FIGURE 4**  
Pre-fabricated community ablation block

**FIGURE 6**

Concept design for a community ablation block suitable for field-testing prototype pedestals and excreta treatment unit processes. A central service corridor allows toilet maintenance to be carried out without having to gain access via the cubicle. Removable, pre-fabricated panels around the base of the pedestal and in the wall behind it allow different models of pedestal to be interchanged easily. Head-height space beneath the toilet cubicles allows easy installation and removal of different excreta processing systems. The block would be connected to sewer, to allow easy disposal of wastes generated by prototype systems.



**Floor Plan Basement**



**Detail A**

**Acknowledgements**  
All technical drawings and photographs produced by Hering.