A new product launch being developed by George Brown College suggests the future of living green may be just that: simply carry out your daily routine. Technology will do the rest.

Copper Jack™, initially developed by Green Frontiers International Inc., is a commercial system of drain water heat recovery (DWHR). The process behind Copper Jack™ is a passive technology that recaptures heat from drain water to preheat fresh water entering the tank.

In other words, the system ‘recycles’ the energy used in a morning shower or dishwater cycle, letting households stay green during busy daily schedules. For the smart consumer, it’s suddenly easy being green.

Copper Jack™ promises to not only save the planet, but also household expenses as well. An effective DWHR system can reduce home-heating costs by up to 40% in an average four person home. In large-scale facilities like hotels or restaurants, these savings can grow as high as 70%. The Copper Jack™ system also works with existing hot water heating systems, all attached to an affordable consumer price point that should be recouped in as little as 2 years.

George Brown College (GBC) was brought on board to work with GFI to further develop, test and refine the Copper Jack™ Vertical DWHR prototype towards eventual commercialization. GFI was armed with a business plan and a promising product: stellar test results suggested the prototype was already performing at a competitive level.

George Brown’s expertise was brought on to refine GFI’s prototype in efficiency, customer-focused design, and manufacturing design, all planning towards commercialization. GFI has been working on this version for nearly two years, and the market is ripe: there are only 4 competing brands using variations of the same design. But GFI’s DWHR design is a complete departure from these old models, with early prototypes of Copper Jack™ performing competitively even in the test phase.

Developed by Green Frontiers International Inc., the technology used by Copper Jack™ is eco-friendly, self-sustaining and cost-effective. Though the technology has been around for some time it’s only now becoming standard in new construction building practices, a fitting complement to the ongoing dedication of George Brown’s research efforts in green building initiatives and the future of sustainability.