



Copper Industries – Software Solution Could save up to 50% on Energy Costs

Copper Industries innovative software programme is set to transform how hot water cylinders are sized for domestic and commercial properties – potentially saving home & business owners up to 50% on their annual energy costs.

Working in conjunction with the Centre for Sustainable Technologies (CST) at the Ulster University, research by Copper Industries has revealed that fitting wrongly sized tanks can result in excessive energy waste.

Traditionally the plumbing and heating sector has used a 'rule-of-thumb' method to calculate the hot water cylinder size required for a property – based on very basic information such as the number of people living/working in a building or the number of beds in the house.

In response, Copper Industries has developed a easy-to-use, on-line size assessment tool which records specific details such as the number of baths/showers/sinks in the property, the recovery potential of the system, as well as the age and requirements of those living/working there. The programme processes these details to calculate the precise size of hot water tank required to meet the maximum demand for each house or business.

With domestic hot water heating accounting for 22% of all UK domestic energy usage, and with energy prices rising each year, cost efficiencies and savings have become increasingly important to consumers. Yet few are aware that an oversized cylinder can be highly inefficient and unnecessarily expensive.

By working in collaboration with the Centre for Sustainable Technologies team at the Ulster University, through a Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Programme, Copper Industries developed a very simple yet highly effective software solution which will not only be of great benefit to the plumbing industry but also has the potential to help home owners and commercial businesses save up to 50% on their annual energy cost savings.