



## **driptechnology: an affordable automated manufacturing system for drip irrigation components**

**driptechnology technology has developed a proprietary, automated manufacturing system for drip irrigation components. This improves upon the current drip system by eliminating a large number of parts and reducing installation time. It has the potential to become the most cost effective and easily used drip irrigation system for small plot farmers in developing nations.**

Peter Frykman, Stanford University, came to the Green Technology Entrepreneurship Academy in 2008. “Our technology was fairly well developed but our business was just being formed,” Frykman says. “We had many questions about how to structure our company and what sources of funding to pursue. GTEA was crucial in getting our team together for an intensive week of learning and deliberations. The feedback from industry coaches and the final presentation panel was extremely helpful.”

Most importantly, GTEA opened opportunities to network and make connections. “The students and coaches I met at GTEA have put me in touch with others who can help,” Frykman explains. “We were able to retain one of the GTEA speakers as our primary legal council, and hired our first employee through the GTEA network.”

In Fall 2008, working in partnership with International Development Enterprises—the current leader in lowcost drip irrigation—driptechnology began a pilot study to test its product’s effectiveness. “Our team will manufacture enough drip irrigation to deploy 20 complete systems with farmers in central India over the next six months,” Peter explains. “The study will target the principal technical risks of the system, testing the consistency of our manufacturing system to ensure uniform water distribution.” driptechnology will also work directly with end-customers to obtain market feedback and usage data.

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