

# Flueless gas heaters – pontoon hulled houseboats

## Gas bulletin 13A

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### Advice for gas heater retailers and owners

If you sell, install or have a flueless gas heater installed, you must comply with the required standard for gas installations in South Australia (SA). The *Gas Act (SA) 1997* calls up AS/NZS 5601.1 as the required standard for installations in SA.

There is a maximum allowable flueless heater rating of 18 megajoules per hour (MJ/hr) in SA, which applies to both natural gas and LPG heaters.

Flueless room heaters are prohibited in bedrooms, bathrooms, toilets or combined living/sleeping rooms. A flueless room heater may be installed in a lounge with a sofa bed that is only used occasionally, provided the heater is removed when the room is used for sleeping and the sofa bed not used when the heater is running.

Using flueless room heaters in commercial (in survey) houseboats with sofa beds requires a conditional exemption from the *Gas Act* issued by the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) in SA.

### Calculating flueless heater capacity for a room

#### Thermostat or non-thermostat models

Room volume in cubic metres x 0.2  
= maximum MJ/hr allowed in the room.

e.g. room volume is 60 cubic metres x 0.2  
= 12 MJ/hr maximum capacity.

### Ventilation

The room to be heated must have ventilation at both high and low level. This should be provided at a rate of 1,000mm<sup>2</sup> of free and permanent ventilation per MJ/hr rating of the heater – e.g. an 18 MJ/hr heater requires 18,000mm<sup>2</sup> of free ventilation area at both high and at low level.

Ventilation must be provided before using the appliance

### Heaters with capacity greater than 18 MJ/hour

Note that some flueless LPG heaters sold prior to the rule change may have a capacity of more than 18 MJ/hr. These heaters can still be sold and installed in SA, as long as the conditions regarding ventilation, room size and appliance capacity are still met.

Contact the OTR for a current list of flueless LPG heaters in this category.

### Use a licensed gas fitter

Remember to always use a licensed gas fitter for all gas installation work. To find a licensed gas fitter or check a license, visit the Office of Consumer and Business Services website at [cbs.sa.gov.au](http://cbs.sa.gov.au)

### Contact the Office of the Technical Regulator for more information

**Online** [sa.gov.au/otr](http://sa.gov.au/otr)

**Email** [dsd.otr@sa.gov.au](mailto:dsd.otr@sa.gov.au)

**Phone** 8226 5722



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