

LOT 20 Regulations

On the 1st January 2018, a new regulation affecting “the eco-design requirements for local space heaters” will be implemented. This derives from an EU Commission Regulation which was transposed into UK Law under the Energy Related Products Regulations (ERP) and is often referred to as ‘LOT 20’.

From 1st of January 2018 any new local space heating system must be compliant with the new ‘LOT 20’ performance standards. The legislation is not retrospective, so existing systems in place will not be affected. **So, what does this mean in plain English?** Well new heaters must have better control to make them more energy efficient. There is no requirement to replace existing heaters but when they need to be replaced they must be LOT 20 compliant.

Why have ‘LOT 20’?

The EU say the primary aim for LOT 20 is to reduce our energy consumption through accurate management. They say the key to this is to modernise electric heating appliances and minimise wasted energy. **What does this mean.?** By making electrical equipment more efficient then this put less strain the generation system.

What are the changes?

The objectives of LOT 20 will be driven by using intelligent timers, controls and sensors. Standard on/off heating appliances without such controls will no longer be compliant and manufacturers and distributors will no longer be able to sell these. **So, what does this mean?** Wholesalers will be able sell off old stock of traditional heaters but any new stock must be LOT 20 compliant.

How will a heater be ‘LOT 20’ compliant?

To be LOT 20 compliant, heaters will in general now need to include 3 key features:

- 24/7 time and temperature control, either built in or through wireless/WIFI APP.
- Electronic thermostatic control for accurate room temperature measurement.
- Open window/door recognition so the heater can reduce usage if the user leaves a door or window open reducing the room temperature rapidly. Some radiators will have a have a smart start facility included, which allows the heater to choose the time it engages to bring the room up to the required temperature set by the user.
- **What does this mean?** The heater will be more intelligent so will control and monitor the room temperature being more energy efficient.

Frequently Asked Question

Q. Will I be forced to be LOT 20 Compliant.?

A. No but you will have to be LOT 20 compliant when it comes time to replace your heater.

Q. Is a LOT 20 heater any different from existing heaters.?

A. Well yes say you have a standard storage heater in your hall it will have a Off-Peak supply. The LOT 20 heater will require a Off-Peak and a standard 24- hour supply. Off-Peak for the heating side and a 24-hour supply for the control side.

Q. What if the heater is just a wall mounted convector unit can I just replace like with like.?

A. No plus you will not be able to buy a heater that is not LOT 20 compliant.

Q. Will I be able to get my existing heaters repaired.?

A. Depending on the age of the storage heater spare parts will be available but with regards to wall mounted convector heaters they may have to be upgraded.

Q. Why would I want to change my heaters.?

A. Well as always it depends on the cost of energy and the cost of fitting new heaters.