

## SHORT WAVE INFRARED HEATING CASE STUDY 2 - COURTYARD AREA

Alfresco entertaining out in a courtyard or terrace is popular in Australia. Many bars and restaurants have outdoor areas for their patrons to enjoy. However, in our temperate climate, it is quite common for the temperature to drop at dusk or during a sudden cool change. So to ensure patron comfort, a common solution is to wheel out portable gas heaters.



**Gas patio heaters are a popular choice in Australia but being progressively banned in Europe**

A better option is short wave halogen infrared heaters. These heaters have reflectors that project heat to a wide area – up to 3 m away. This allows overhead mounting, freeing up floor space that would otherwise be cluttered by gas patio heaters. These heaters are very efficient, for like sunlight, short wave infrared travels loss-free through the air to transfer maximum energy to the target area.

Each lamp consumes 2000 watts. With current power prices, this means around \$0.70 per hour, significantly less than the \$1.80 per hour for a 9 kg gas bottle. And being electric, they can be wired into sensors to operate only when people are nearby.



**Halogen infrared is the most efficient method of providing comfort heating to a closed in outdoor room.**

All gas heaters are inefficient in open areas as the heat is concentrated under their shields and easily dispersed by breezes. Gas heaters also tend to be left on, so when patrons leave the area, energy is wasted heating empty space. Another problem is that non-flued gas burners pollute the air, limiting the use of blinds or windows to protect the area from wind and rain.

But the biggest drawback is emptying the bottle - a standard 9 kg bottle only lasts around 10-12 hours. This means swapping the gas bottle with a spare, or rushing off to the store to obtain a refill.



Short wave halogen electric heaters are an ideal solution for restaurant courtyards and patios. The heaters are lightweight and can easily be mounted around a courtyard or outdoor room. Heaters do not emit exhaust gases, so an outdoor area can be closed in to prevent chilly breezes from passing through.

Electrical cables are simple to install allowing heaters to be wired into zones or controlled by push button timers. Utility costs are reduced as heaters only operate while patrons are in the area. And further costs are saved as pub staff no longer have to fill up gas bottles or worry about running out during the evening.

For more information, contact us.



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