



SAFETY BULLETIN

Space Heaters

Considerations for the Selection & Use of Space Heaters

Before a space heater can be used, a few things need to be considered.

1. Is the thermostat in the work area set to the appropriate temperature?
2. Is the work area too cold because the building's systems are not working properly? Contact Fixit (x77301) to confirm that there isn't a building problem that PPS can resolve.
3. Can the electrical circuit handle the increased load of a space heater? The increased load may result in a tripped breaker and the sudden loss of power to computers and other electrical devices

If the above items have been addressed, then a space heater meeting the following conditions may be used:

The heater must be electrically powered. Fuel powered (propane, kerosene) space heaters are not permitted.

The heater must be listed by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC) or other regulatory agency. Labels indicating the device has been tested and approved by one of these agencies must be on the electrical cord or on the heater itself. Review the Electrical Equipment Certification SOP for information on safety labels and approvals. www.safety.queensu.ca/safety/policy/eh&s/ElectricalEquipmentCertification.pdf

The heater must have a thermostat to shut down the unit when the desired temperature is achieved, Heaters with simple "on/off" or "high/low" switches continue to heat without any regulation and can easily cause fires.

Space heaters must have a tip-over protection which turns off the heater if it is knocked over.

A guard or screen must cover the heating element.

Heated open coil radiant heaters are not permitted.



