

## FEATURE RADIATORS & TOWEL RAILS



# A safe solution for everyone

**Heat Electric believes its electric water-filled radiators can protect the young, the elderly and those with disabilities from serious injury**

At first glance a standard radiator may not be an obvious health hazard, but for vulnerable members of society it can be a dangerous and potentially harmful feature in any room.

People with thin, delicate skin can suffer superficial burns from even a glancing touch of a conventional radiator – the surface temperature of which can reach 70°C – while contact burns to those over 65 can prove fatal.

According to the Home Accident Surveillance System, 27,429 people were injured in their home by either a radiator or hot pipework in 2002. This is the

last year the data was collected, which was funded by the Department of Trade & Industry and managed by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

Water-filled electric radiators, such as those manufactured by Heat Electric, eliminate two of the main dangers associated with a wet central heating system. No boiler or pipework is required, as each individual radiator houses a mini boiler and pump to heat and circulate the water.

The range also includes low surface temperature (LST) models, with a specialist casing to

prevent the surface temperature from exceeding 43°C.

Each radiator only requires access to a 13A plug socket, offering flexibility in terms of room design and layout – crucial considerations when providing accommodation for people with special needs.

Reducing the risk of physical injury is just one requirement when fitting radiators in homes for more vulnerable users.

In today's current economic climate, running costs are also a key consideration. These can be reduced with the Heat Electric system by switching to the Economy 10 tariff, which provides reduced price electricity between 12am and 5am, 1pm to 4pm and 8pm to 10pm. Without a boiler or pipework, the system incurs no annual service fee.

The products' controllability ensures that heat is only ever delivered when and where it is needed, avoiding overheating, cold spots and energy wastage.

The system is 100% efficient, converting every £1 spent on electricity into usable heat, with each radiator reaching its optimum temperature.

While a conventional heating

system will take a temperature reading only in one location, each Heat Electric radiator is fitted with its own built-in air thermostat.

This constantly monitors the room's temperature against the one it has been programmed to achieve at certain times of day. If a room is too cold, the radiator will activate until the desired temperature has been reached, at which point it will stop drawing electricity immediately.

Heat Electric's managing director, David Garrity, said: "A practical and cost-effective solution, our LST radiators can be fitted either throughout a property or solely in high risk areas. They are particularly suited to hospitals, nursing homes, schools and nurseries, as well as private dwellings which may be home to a disabled child or elderly relative.

"Easy to install, they ensure that the most vulnerable members of society are protected from a very real danger to their health, and also have the most efficient, responsive form of heating at their fingertips 24 hours a day, ensuring their optimum well being."

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### LST RADIATORS REDUCE THE RISK OF INJURY

Heat Electric's LST radiators were used to reduce the risk of injury at the Royds Court community housing development in Mirfield, West Yorkshire. Traditional radiators were used in the communal areas, with LST radiators fitted in the private living areas of 60 elderly and disabled residents.

"Safety was a primary concern, as the residents were more vulnerable and at a higher risk of falling and causing injury," said former mechanical site engineer John Wrigglesworth. "We had 195 Heat Electric LST radiators installed throughout the development. Each one is an individual, pipe-free unit which looks and works just like a conventional gas central heating system. Each one works independently, requiring no external pipework. This eradicates a further potential burn hazard. The outer casing has safer, radiused edges to minimise the risk of injury in the event of a fall."