Rheem Equa-Flow[®] Manifold Installation Instruction

Manifold Suitable for Heavy Duty Gas and Heavy Duty Electric water heater

The Rheem EQUA-FLOW manifold system is a method of connecting multiple water heaters in PARALLEL so that all heaters operate as one.



- The maximum number of water heaters in a bank should be 8, however several banks of water heaters can be installed as shown in diagram 1.
- The hot water line from the manifold must leave from the opposite end to which the cold water line enters the manifold.
- A non-return valve, isolation valve and if required a pressure limiting valve and expansion control valve, must be installed on the cold water line prior to the branch connection to the system.
- Banks of heaters can be positioned in-line, within a corner of a building or back to back as shown in diagrams 2, 3 and 4.

Manifold Arrangement



Please refer to Diagram 5 below to check for all necessary components to complete the manifold.

External Gas Heater Installations: Gas fitting regulations require 500mm minimum distance between adjacent balanced flue terminals. Manifold header pipe as supplied will provide for fixing of heaters at 920mm centre to centre which ensures 500mm between adjacent terminals.

Internal Gas or Electric Heater Installations: For each heater, the clearance on each side will be 150-200mm.

- 1. Mark on rear wall the height of heater hot and cold connections and centre of each heater. (See Diagrams 8 and 9).
- 2. Fix stand-off type pipe brackets at levels to suit heater hot and cold water connections. Spacing should correspond with the centre of each heater if only 2 heaters or every second heater if more than 2.
- 3. If A/C is less than 920mm, shorten the header pipes to suite. Remember to allow for socket penetration.
- 4. Fit flare nipples to heater water connections using only Teflon tape.
- 5. Referring to diagram 9, assemble hot and cold heater pipes into brackets, aligning branch holes to correct centre distance and orientation. (Final positioning of manifold can be adjusted later by sliding in brackets).



- 6. Silver solder header joints and end caps. It may be convenient to install the gas manifold at this stage.
- 7. Position first heater starting from any internal corner.
- 8. Loosely screw a branch assembly to the heater cold water connection and align branch hole of header pipe to match position of branch assembly.
- 9. Remove branch assembly from heater and insert spigot end into header pipe. Then reconnect to heater and tighten flare nut.
- 10.Repeat steps 8 and 9 for installation of branch assembly to heater hot connection.
- 11.Silver solder branch joint.
- 12.Repeat 8 and 11 for the remaining heaters.
- 13. Fit cold water relief valves if required by local regulations.
- 14. Insulate the hot water manifold. (If the system is a recirculating system, insulate the cold manifold as well).