



Space Heating and Domestic Hot Water Production with Underfloor

Principle of Operation

The Kensa compact heat pump is specifically designed to provide space heating and domestic hot water (DHW) at the highest efficiency possible with the simplest installation.

In space heating mode the system provides hot water into the underfloor heating system at generally a flow temperature of 35°C. For underfloor heating in a well insulated building this will provide adequate heating into the building at the heat pump's highest efficiency. If the insulation of the building is below current regulations then this flow temperature might need to be increased reducing the system's efficiency. Insulative floor coverings such as wood or thick carpets can also require higher flow temperatures.

To avoid short cycling of the heat pump it is advised that 25% of the zones on the underfloor manifolds are left hydraulically open to provide a minimum load on the heat pump. These zones are usually the bathrooms and halls. Any mixing valves on manifolds should also be removed to provide maximum heat into the underfloor zones.

The underfloor manifolds should ideally be connected using a reverse return system as this will ensure even heat flow through the underfloor zones without the use of balancing valves and the resulting increase in water pump energy.

When the DHW time clock calls for production of DHW, the three-port valve diverts the flow from the heating distribution circuit into the indirect coil within the hot water cylinder. The temperature of the water from the heat pump is raised to approximately 50°C. When the DHW production time period ends, the three port valve switches back to the underfloor distribution and the temperature drops back to its space heating design temperature. The heat pump then reverts to space heating mode or switches off if no zones are calling for heat.

The maximum DHW temperature that the heat pump can achieve will be approximately 50- 55°C. In summer, it could be higher, due to the warmer ground conditions. If 65°C is required all year round, it is recommended that an immersion heater is linked to a second channel on the DHW timeclock and this is programmed to operate for a period immediately following the DHW production. This means that the majority of the heating load for the DHW is produced using the heat pump, as opposed to using only the direct immersion heater. If 50°C water is acceptable, then it is recommended that the immersion heater is programmed to raise the temperature to 65°C once a week using the DHW timeclock.

Facts at a glance

Highest possible efficiency - The heat pump uses two temperature set points (one for the underfloor and one for the DHW production) to produce the required heating at the highest efficiency as opposed to using in built direct immersion heaters.

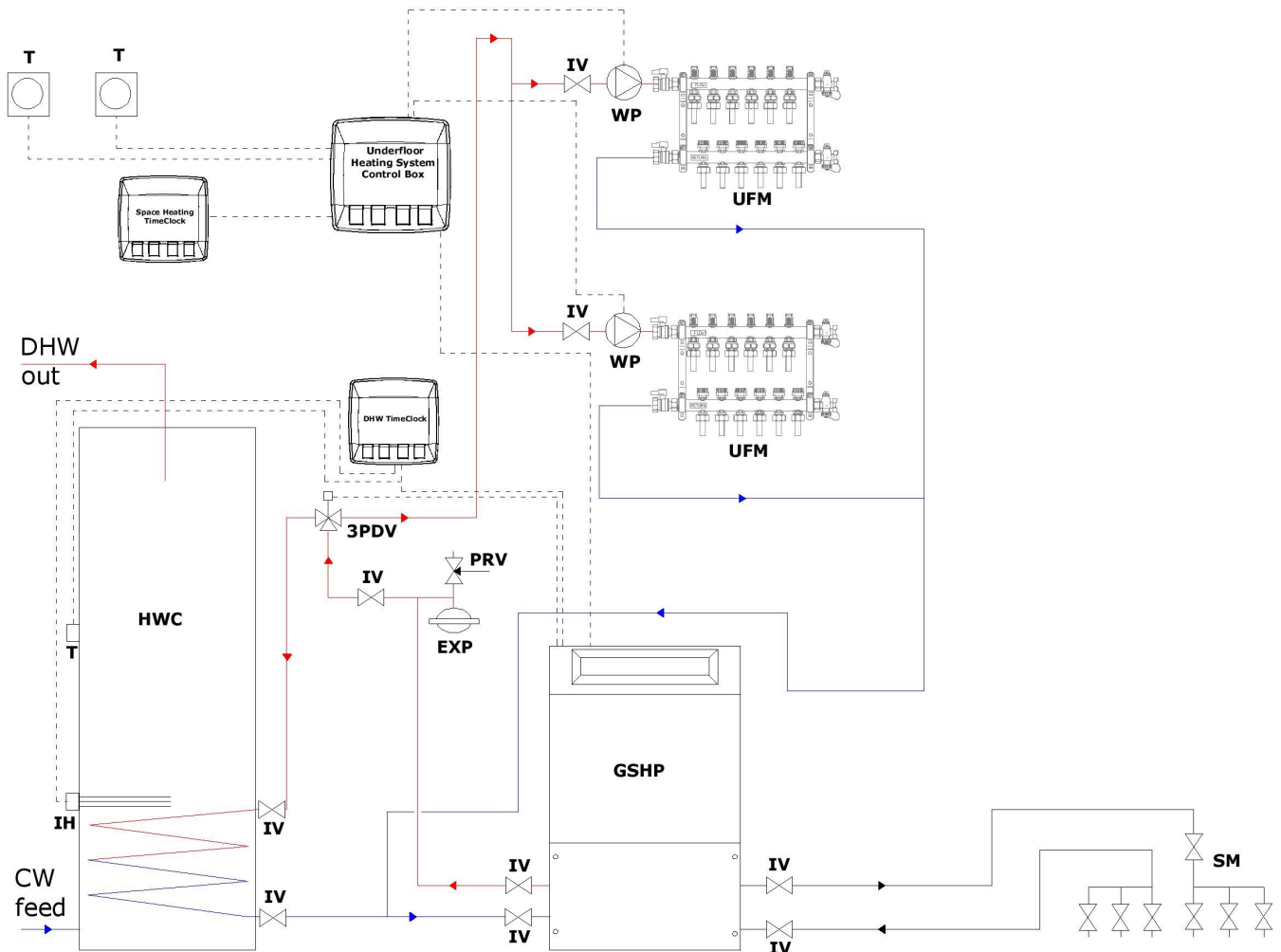
50°C DHW flow temperature - Domestic Hot Water flow temperatures achieved at approximately 50°C Simple Installation. Designed to simplify installation by removing the need for complicated control logic, buffer tanks, balancing valves and hot water cylinder thermostats.

Proprietary hot water tanks can be used - The Kensa DHW system can link easily to any modern indirect DHW tank, with an indirect coil, such as the Megaflo. The larger size the coil within the tank, the better the heat transfer area and hence the better the DHW performance will be. Ideally the solar coil should be used if solar is not connected.

Application (AIS)

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Abbreviations

3PDV - 3 port diverting valve
 DHW - Domestic Hot Water
 CW - Cold Water
 EXP - Expansion vessel
 GSHP - Ground source heat pump
 HWC - Hot water cylinder
 IH - Immersion heater
 IV - Isolation valve
 PRV - Pressure relief valve
 SM - Slinky manifold
 UFM - Underfloor manifold
 WP - Water pump

Please note:- The above drawing is a schematic only and additional valves and fittings maybe required.

Please note:- Kensa supply is the ground source heat pump, slinky manifold and 3 port diverting valve. Kensa also supplies the horizontal ground arrays and antifreeze (not shown above).

The above installation schematic is based on 25% of the underfloor zones being open i.e with no control valves fitted, hence removing the need for a buffer tank.

Space Heating and Domestic Hot Water with Radiators

Continued...

Principle of Operation

The Kensa compact heat pump is specifically designed to provide space heating at the highest efficiency possible with the simplest installation.

In space heating mode the system provides hot water into the radiator heating system at generally a flow temperature of 45—50°C. For heating in a well insulated building this will provide adequate heating into the building, however the sizing of the radiators will need to be checked. If the insulation of the building is below current regulations then this flow temperature might not be higher enough to provide sufficient heat into the building.

To avoid short cycling of the heat pump in space heating mode, it is advisable that approximately 25% of the radiators are used as bypass radiators, i.e. with no thermostatic controls on them. These bypass radiators should be in areas which do not require close temperature control such as hallways. If close temperature control is required in all zones a buffer vessel should be used.

The radiators should ideally be connected using a reverse return system as this will ensure even heat flow through the radiators without the use of balancing valves and the resulting increase in water pump energy.

Any microbore pipe will need to be removed as this does not allow the correct flow rate of hot water into the radiators and systems will also need to be power flushed before the system is commissioned.

Heat pumps will operate with radiators, however due to the higher flow temperatures (45-50°C) the efficiency of such systems are lower than underfloor systems. COP's for radiator systems due to this higher flow temperature are generally around 3.

When the DHW time clock calls for production of DHW, the three-port valve diverts the flow from the heating distribution circuit into the indirect coil within the hot water cylinder. The temperature of the water from the heat pump is raised to approximately 50°C.

When the DHW production time period ends, the three port valve switches back to the underfloor distribution and the temperature drops back to its space heating design temperature. The heat pump then reverts to space heating mode or switches off if no zones are calling for heat.

The maximum DHW temperature that the heat pump can achieve will be approximately 50-55°C. If 65°C is required all year round, it is recommended that an immersion heater is linked to a second channel on the DHW timeclock and this is programmed to operate for a period immediately following the DHW production. This means that the majority of the heating load for the DHW is produced using the heat pump, as opposed to using only the direct immersion heater. If 50°C water is acceptable, then it is recommended that the immersion heater is programmed to raise the temperature to 65°C once a week using the DHW timeclock.

Facts at a glance:

Heat pumps and radiators -

Heat pumps can be effectively used with radiators, however there are certain considerations that need to be taken into account.

45-50 degC flow temperature -

Heat pumps with radiators require to increase their flow temperatures to 45-50°C which reduces the COP and hence efficiency.

Oversized hot water coils are required -

The larger the size of the coil within the tank, the better the heat transfer area and hence the better the DHW performance will be. Due to the low flow temperatures generated by the heat pump the hot water tank must have an oversized coil to provide the correct heat transfer.

Simple Installation -

Designed to simplify installation by removing the need for complicated control logic.

Off-Peak Tariffs -

Due to the low water content of radiator systems and hence low thermal storage, off-peak tariffs such as Economy 10 can not be effectively used and a flat rate tariff might be more effective.

50 degC DHW flow temperature -

Domestic Hot Water flow temperatures achieved at approximately 50°C.