## FLAT PANEL HEATER MANUAL

**BIG FACE SB001** 

## IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES

Read all instructions BEFORE assembling and using this product. KEEP THIS MANUAL.



#### **CONNECTING MULTIPLE UNITS**

DO NOT install multiple units directly into the return line. Doing so may damage the product and will void the warranty.

To install multiple units, you MUST use a Bypass Kit, available from your local swimming pool specialty retailer.

IMPORTANT: Approved for use with any filter up to a maximum of 2.0 HP.

Use of any other type of pump will void the warranty.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

# YOUR POOL HEATER HAS BEEN ENGINEERED AND MANUFACTURED TO OUR HIGHEST STANDARD FOR DEPENDABILITY, EASE OF OPERATION AND SAFETY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE.

# 1. Safety Warnings 4 2. General Information 4 3. Parts List/Reference 5 4. Installation Instructions 6 5. Initial Operation 7

**TABLE OF CONTENTS** 

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE ASSEMBLING AND USING THIS PRODUCT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAN CAUSE SEVERE AND/OR FATAL INJURY.

#### READ ALL WARNINGS BELOW. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.

- Carefully read and adhere to all CAUTION and NOTE notices located throughout this manual.
   Failure to comply with these instructions can cause serious injury, death, or damage to the unit.
- Do NOT allow children to operate this product.
- Always turn the filter system to a setting that does not allow flow to the pool return when installing
  or working on the solar heater.
- Install product away from the pool to prevent children from using the heater as a way to access the pool.
- NEVER service this unit with the pool pump running.
- Do not use any petroleum based lubricant. Petroleum based products will destroy plastic parts.

THESE CAUTION WARNINGS ARE NOT INTENDED TO INCORPORATE ALL POSSIBLE INSTANCES FOR RISK AND/OR SEVERE INJURY. THE POOL OWNER SHOULD ALWAYS EXERCISE CAUTION AND COMMON SENSE WHEN UTILIZING THEIR SWIMMING POOL AND OPERATING EQUIPMENT.

#### 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

This manual provides information relating to the installation, utilization and maintenance of our solar heater. We recommend you read this manual in its entirety and keep it for future reference.

The solar heater you just purchased for your above ground pool is simple to install and effortless to operate once connected. The installation instructions included in this manual are based on a few assumptions: 1) you have an existing above ground pool that is completely set up and filled with water, 2) your above ground pool is equipped with a pump-operated water filtering system, and 3) you have the necessary hoses needed to feed water in and out of your pool and filter system.

These assumptions are necessary as the solar heater, once installed, will be completely dependent upon your pool's filter pump to push water in and through the heater's solar coils.

#### **How It Works**

When properly installed, the solar heater will be connected to your filter and your pool by two hose connections: One hose will feed cold, filtered pool water from your pump into one port of the solar heater. The other hose will feed sun warmed water from the other port of the solar heater to your pool via the pool return inlet in your pool. As cold water is fed into the solar heater, it travels through the solar coils where it is heated by the sun before it is delivered back into your swimming pool.

#### **Unpacking Your Solar Heater**

Carefully remove the product and all component parts from the box. Make certain all parts are present before beginning assembly. (see Section 2, Parts List/Reference).

#### **Tools & Equipment Required**

The following items are not included with your new solar heater, but will be required for proper installation and operation:

- #2 Phillips screwdriver
- 1/4" Flat head screwdriver
- Silicone based lubricant

#### **Know Your Pool**

Before you begin installation it is a good idea to know certain specifications about your pool:

How big is your pool?

How many gallons does it hold?

What size hose does it use? (i.e. 11/4" dia, 11/2" dia or 21/4" dia)

What kind of hose connection does your pool use? (i.e. threaded/unthreaded)

What location will position the heater for maximum sun exposure?

#### Solar Heater Location

Your solar heater needs to be located on a hard level surface. You will need to position the heater lower than the pool's water level and at a safe distance away from the pool (see Section 1, Safety Warnings).

- The unit(s) should never be placed on the roof of any structure, or more than 60" above the water level of the pool.
- The unit(s) may be angled toward the sun using the legs provided. Do not exceed the angle the legs produces, or 30 degrees from horizontal in any direction.

NOTE: The solar heater is to be installed between the filter and the pool water inlet, AFTER the water is filtered. The heater must come after the filter to prevent buildup in the tubing.

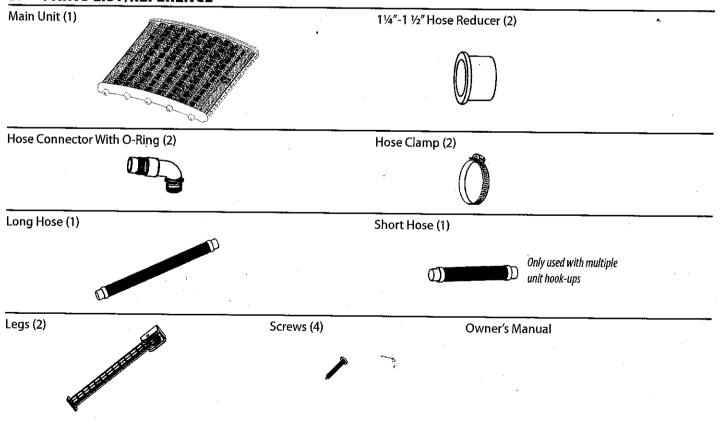
IMPORTANT: If you are using a chlorine generator OR an in line chlorinator, it must be connected in-line following the solar heater to prevent damage to the heater.

#### CAUTION

Before loosening any threaded connections on your filter, pump or pool, be sure the suction and pressure hoses on the filter are closed or blocked to prevent water flow.

IMPORTANT: To reduce heat loss, use a pool cover on your pool overnight.

#### 3. PARTS LIST/REFERENCE



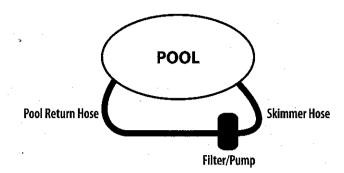
Note: Some parts may be pre-installed at the factory. Parts not shown to scale.

#### 4. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

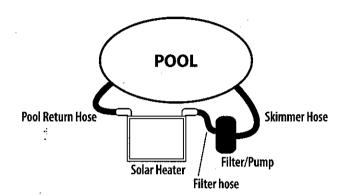
#### Heater - Filter - Pool Layout

The system layouts below will help you install the solar heater(s) to your above ground pool.

BEFORE INSTALLING SOLAR HEATER



AFTER INSTALLING SOLAR HEATER



NOTE: Not shown to scale

#### **Heater - Leg Installation**

Install the 2 legs using a small Phillips head screwdriver and the 4 screws included. See Figure 1.

#### **Heater - Pool Connections**

These instructions assume that the pool and filter system are already assembled and there is a hose attached to the pool return (pool water inlet).

Place the solar heater in a location where it will receive the greatest amount of sunlight and at least 10 feet away from pool.

#### 1) Heater - Filter Pump Connection

- a) Turn off filter pump.
- b) Block water flow at both the pool return inlet and the filter pump outlet to prevent water from flowing through the hoses.
- c) Detach the pool return hose from your filter system and set aside.

### NOTE: If you are using an INTEX® filter, remove the hose adapter from the filter port as well.

- d) Depending on the orientation of your pump setup and desired heater placement, choose one side to be the inlet and the other to be the outlet.
- e) Locate long filter hose and attach between pump (the port where the pool return hose was previously connected.) and the inlet using the included hose clamps.

NOTE: Depending on the size of your hose, the 11/4"-11/2" reducer may need to be used. Insert the reducer inside of the long filter hose and attach using hose clamp. Apply a small amount of silicon based lubricant to the outside of the side connector to allow an easy fit. See Figure 2.

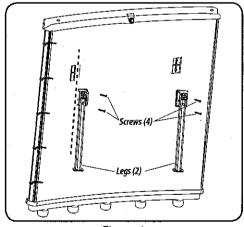


Figure 1

Pools with 1¼" or 1½" Diameter Unthreaded Hoses
Using a hose clamp, secure the loose end of your existing
pool return hose to the outlet of the heater. See figure 2.

#### Pools with 21/4" Diameter Threaded Hoses

 Attach the collared tube adapter with o-ring to the central hose connector under the base. Make sure the o-ring is in the collared tube adapter prior to attachment.

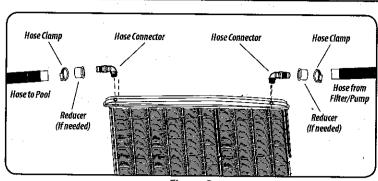


Figure 2

2. Screw your existing pool return hose onto the collared tube adapter. Be sure to place the thick connector gasket between the hose and the adapter for a tight seal.

#### 3) Solar Heater Placement

Extend the two legs on the underside of the heater and face the heater in the direction of the sun's natural path.

NOTE: If solar heater needs to be further from the filter than the hoses allow, you may need to purchase a longer hose with the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter openings. A  $1\frac{1}{2}$ "- $1\frac{1}{2}$ " coupler is needed to allow you to connect an additional hose if necessary (not included). In this case make certain you have two hose clamps to secure the hoses to the coupler. If the hoses are too wide to fit the hose connector, put the  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "- $1\frac{1}{2}$ " tube reducer on the hose connector and continue.

#### CAUTION

Ensure ALL hose connections are tight and the hoses are NOT kinked or bent at severe angles. If the hoses are leaking, check to make sure ALL of the parts that have O-Rings have them attached and are screwed on tightly. DO NOT over tighten hose clamps (35 in/lb max torque)

NOTE: The short hose is only used to connect multiple solar heaters together.

#### 5. INITIAL OPERATION

Once the solar heater has been assembled and the hoses are connected to the filter pump and pool return, unblock the flow of water into the pool return hose and turn on the pump and filter system. Bubbles will shoot out of the return nozzle into the pool initially while air is pushed out of the solar heater. If this persists for longer than 2 or 3 minutes, check for and repair any leaks in the hoses or connections.

FOR BEST RESULTS: To reduce heat loss, use a pool cover on your pool overnight, run your filter system during daylight hours and cover the solar heater at night (if running the system).

#### 6. MAINTENANCE

The solar heater should not require servicing or maintenance other than winterizing. Prior to the first frost, or at the end of your swim season, the solar heater should be removed from its connections to the pool and stored in a frost free location.

#### Winterizing

Drain all the water from the solar heater by disconnecting the hoses and removing all the drain plugs at the bottom of the heater using a 10mm hex key. Reattach drain plugs after draining. Store in a location protected from frost. Reconnect the pool return tubes with a 1½"-1½" coupler (not included) or any properly sized 2-way valve if continued pool use is desired.

#### CAUTION

Do NOT allow standing water inside the solar heater to freeze. Water expands as it freezes and can rupture the solar coils on the heater.

#### 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Problem	Possibilities/Solutions	
Does not appear to be heating the pool.	<ul> <li>Check to make sure that water is flowing through the holes. Check the flow strength at the pool inlet.</li> </ul>	
	• Has it been sunny?	
	Put your pool cover on at night to prevent heat loss.	
	Additional heaters may be necessary.	
	If using a bypass kit, check and adjust flow restrictions if necessary.	
No initial bubbling after heater is connected and pump is on.	Check the setting of the filter to make sure it is returning water to the pool through the pool water inlet.	
	Check flow rate.	
Bubbles continue	Check the connections for a suction leak.	
to flow out of the pool water inlet well after the pump has been turned on.	Check to make sure the flow rate is normal.	
	• There could be a break in the tubing.	
	There could be a clog in the tubing, try to purge out the clog.	
Leaking heater	Check the connector seals and replace or repair if defective.	
High filter pressure	• Flow through heather may be too high. A bypass kit may be needed.	
	Filter may need backwashing or filter media change.	
	Pool/spa system valves may need adjusting.	
	Water return outlet may be blocked.	

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

#### 8. LIMITED WARRANTY STATEMENT

The manufacturer warranties safe operation and reliability only under the following conditions:

- The solar heater is installed and operated according to the assembly and operating instructions.
- Only original replacement parts are used.
- Consumable parts do NOT fall under the warranty.

9

#### 9. APPENDIX: EXPLODED PARTS DIAGRAM

Key	Part Name	Qty
1	Main Unit	1
2	Hose Connector with O-Ring	2
3	Hose Reduces	2
4	Hose Clamp	2
5	Legs	2
6	Long Hose	1
7	Short Hose	1
8	Drain Plugs	5
9	Screws	4

