

EQUINE SUNSWITCH

A unique product to make horse ownership and management so much easier.



sun switch

You can use your Equine SunSwitch heater for a variety of uses all year round, making it an invaluable piece of equipment for all aspects of equine management:

Clipping

Much easier with the rug fully removed. Horses can be clipped in comfort whatever the weather.

Grooming and tacking up

Neither you nor your horse will feel cold as you prepare for work. Excellent for calming and warming excitable horses before exercise to minimise muscle strain.

Drying off

Dry horses quickly and effortlessly after exercise or washing down.

Rug drying

Much cheaper and more versatile than dedicated rug drying devices.

Easing sore backs and muscles

The gentle warmth of Equine SunSwitch provides a form of heat most readily absorbed by muscle tissue to help relax and repair.

Foaling and convalescence

The natural and comfortable heat is very helpful. The Philips element produces a soft but effective radiance, permitting discrete observation after dark.



Getting the most from your Equine SunSwitch

Thank you for purchasing this product. Please read the following guidelines for installation and use, together with the detailed mounting and wiring instructions provided separately.

Equine SunSwitch helps promote the health and welfare of horses and ponies in so many ways. Used extensively in yards and stables in the UK and abroad, typical uses include drying off, easing sore backs and muscles, pre-exercise warming and foaling.

Equine SunSwitch quartz halogen heaters provide an effective alternative to the solarium at a fraction of the cost. The key is the high-tech Philips short wavelength infra red element, which is not only perfect for warming muscle tissue to help relax and repair, but can be used for extended periods for greater benefit.

Equine SunSwitch is IP54 rated, which means it is weather, dust and splash proof. Completely sealed with a tempered safety glass front panel, it is designed for permanent installation indoors or out, and has all year round applications.

Versatile and safe

Stables can be dusty places. The tempered safety glass front of Equine SunSwitch heaters means there are no exposed elements where settling dust or loose material could pose a fire hazard. And the IP54 weathersafe rating, makes it perfectly safe to use in wet areas, such as in wash down bays - or outside in the rain.

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www.equinesunswitch.co.uk



Heater positioning

(see detailed installation instructions enclosed with heater)

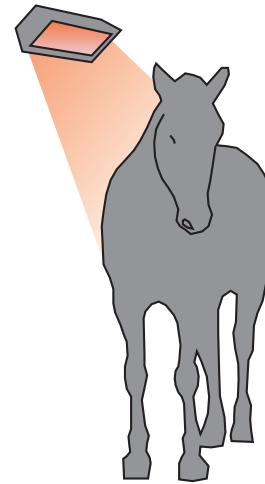
The heaters should be placed high enough that a horse cannot come into contact with it, but low enough to deliver their heat effectively. Using the brackets provided, install the heater units with the face of the heaters angled down at approximately 45°, with the element positioned horizontally.

Controller positioning

See detailed installation instructions enclosed with each controller. Controllers should be positioned where they can be reached easily by you, but out of reach of the horse.

Equine SunSwitch Controllers should be installed where there is no risk of accidental splashing.

Equine SunSwitch Timer Controllers are splashproof and can be installed in washdown bays or outdoors.



Equine Dryer Kit - ED1

Kit comprises:

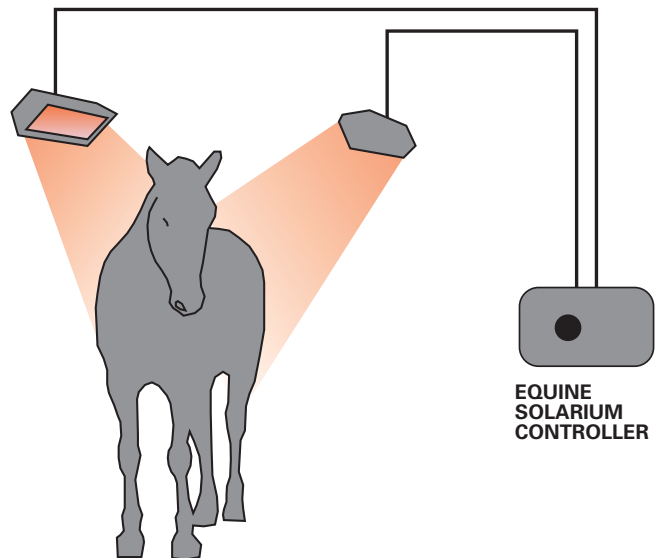
2 x weathersafe (IP54) Equine SunSwitch 1.3kW short wavelength infra-red heaters

1 x Equine SunSwitch Controller (EC1) or:

1 x splashproof Equine SunSwitch Controller + Timer (ECT1).

Installation

In a standard stable/loose box or wash-down bay, mount the two heaters on opposite walls as per heater positioning instructions above. Typically, the heaters will be approximately 3-4 metres apart. However, this distance is not critical as the heat output can be adjusted. The controller should be wired to the heaters and single phase 220-240V ac mains in accordance with current electrical regulations and the enclosed instructions.



Drying your horse

Dry your horse speedily and without risk of chilling. Adjust the SunSwitch regulator to provide the right level of comfort for your horse, depending on the ambient temperature. Horses can be left to eat, drink and move freely around the box, provided the heaters are installed correctly out of reach.

Rug drying

Suspend the rug by its D-rings or drape over a line a minimum of 1.5 metres from the heater. Make sure the rug is far enough away to be fully covered by the heater's zone. Turning the rug occasionally will ensure quick and even drying. For even speedier results use two heaters focussed on either side of the rug. Good for drying other stable equipment such as numnahs, saddle pads, bandages and grooming brushes.



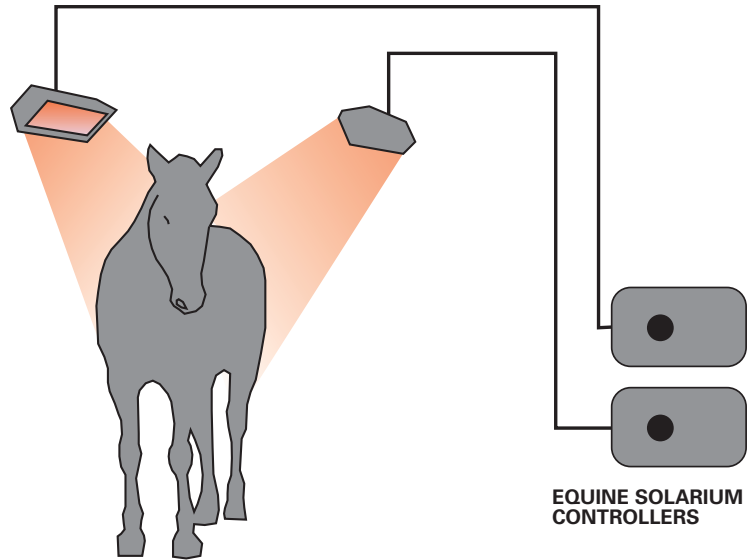
Equine Solarium Kit - Standard

Comprises:

2 x weathersafe (IP54) Equine SunSwitch 1.3kW short wavelength infra-red heaters
2 x Equine SunSwitch Controllers (EC1) or:
2 x splashproof Equine SunSwitch Controllers + Timers (ECT1)

Installation

In a standard stable/loose box, mount the two heaters on opposite walls as per heater positioning instructions on page 2. Typically, the heaters will be approximately 3-4 metres apart (the distance is not critical as the heat output can be adjusted). The Equine SunSwitch Controllers should be wired to the heaters and single phase 220-240V ac mains in accordance with current electrical regulations and the enclosed instructions.



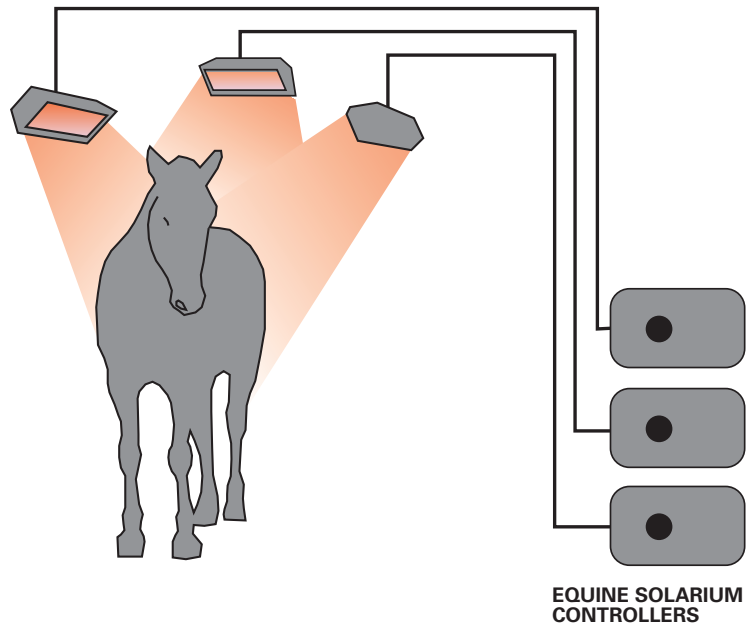
Equine Solarium Kit - Deluxe

Comprises:

3 x weathersafe (IP54) Equine SunSwitch 1.3kW short wavelength infra-red heaters
3 x Equine SunSwitch Controllers (EC1) or:
3 x splashproof Equine SunSwitch Controllers + Timers (ECT1)

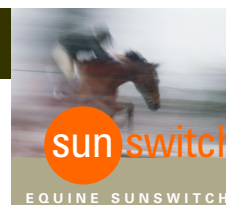
Installation

In a standard stable/loose box, mount two heaters on opposite walls as per heater positioning instructions on page 2. Typically, the heaters will be approximately 3-4 metres apart (the distance is not critical as the heat output can be adjusted). The third heater should be mounted on the adjacent wall at a similar height. The Equine SunSwitch Controllers should be wired to the heaters and single phase 220-240V ac mains in accordance with current electrical regulations and the enclosed instructions.



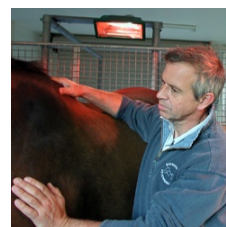
Upgrade at any time

Equine SunSwitch heaters can be used singly for a wide range of equine management uses, but they can also be installed in larger arrays for drying and solarium purposes. Additional heaters and controllers can be added at any time, providing an upgrade path to a full Deluxe solarium.



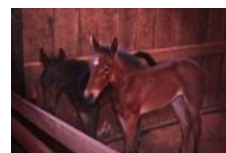
Therapy and treatment

Before switching the heaters on, turn the controllers to the minimum setting. Now switch the heaters on, and adjust the level of heat by rotating the controller knobs clockwise. If the horse is to undergo massage or any other form of manual therapy, you may want to allow 5-10 minutes for the tissues to warm up for optimum efficacy. The therapist may wish to adjust the heat output focussed on different parts of the horse accordingly. Horses can enjoy any length of time under Equine SunSwitch, dependant on its condition and requirement, although one hour is usually deemed sufficient for most treatment sessions. It may not be necessary to tether the horse during treatment, as most horses enjoy and readily accept the feeling of comfort.



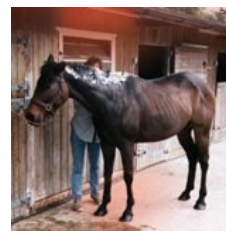
Foaling and convalescence

The natural comforting warmth produced by Equine SunSwitch is very welcomed by newly born foals and their dams, as well as by sick, injured or elderly horses. The gentle light output allows discrete observation, which can be particularly useful when monitoring a mare in foal or a colicky horse. As long as the heaters are correctly positioned out of reach, they can be left on for prolonged periods. Adjust the regulators accordingly to provide a comforting and therapeutic environment.



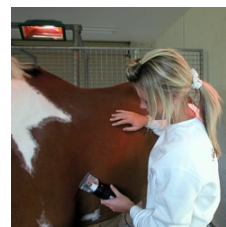
Grooming and tacking up

Use one or two heaters to warm your horse while you are getting ready. Can be used indoors or out in a yard in any weather. Excellent for calming and warming excitable horses before exercise to minimise risk of muscle strain. Equally beneficial for older horses prone to stiffness. Blacksmiths and vets appreciate the warmth too!

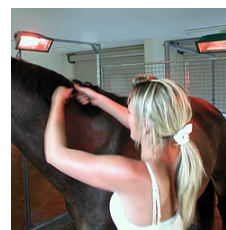


Show Preparation

Equine SunSwitch can be used to accelerate the natural seasonal moulting process, shortening the rather untidy in-between stage. As with drying off, horses can be left to wander freely round a loosebox while Equine SunSwitch does its work. It is important to ensure that the heaters are correctly installed so the horse cannot come into contact with it. The use of a controller will allow prolonged use of the heater, without the horse becoming uncomfortably warm.

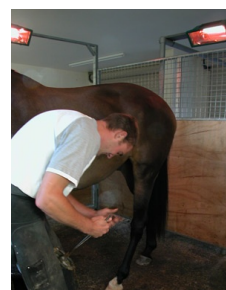


The natural oils in the coat are stimulated by quartz halogen infrared heat, resulting in a glossier smoother finish for horses dried off under Equine SunSwitch. Two or three heaters will do the job speedily. Turn the horse's hindquarters to a heater to dry the tail, and position the horse side-on to dry the mane. The use of SunSwitch regulators will allow you to adjust the heat accordingly and make sure your horse stays comfortable.



Clipping

It is much easier to clip with the rugs right off, so to avoid your horse getting cold, use two heaters – one either side, and if possible a third trained on the hind quarters. Controllers will allow you to adjust the output if necessary. Many horses find Equine SunSwitch very calming, so it is of particular benefit when clipping fidgety or nervous horses.



EQUINE SUNSWITCH SOLARIUM



What does a solarium do?

Much is claimed about exposure to short wavelength infra red heat. It is said to improve circulation, digestion and the production of red blood cells. By increasing the flow of blood to the reproductive organs, and producing a sense of well-being, radiant warmth is believed to increase fertility in mares and stallions, and perk up a sickly or convalescent animal. Short-wavelength infra red heat is readily absorbed into muscle, so it can stimulate and facilitate repair of damaged tissue. Horses warmed in this way prior to exercise are less likely to suffer from strains and muscle damage that often occur when commencing from cold. Stamina and resilience are thought to be better, and energy is available quickly and without as much risk of the animal hurting itself.

“ The benefits of this form of heat therapy are based on locally enhanced blood circulation in the skin, caused by vasodilatory response. It has been shown to speed the healing of non-infected wounds, in many cases providing rapid and effective pain relief. It has also been found to accelerate the healing of eczemas and saddle sores, and help clear sinus congestion. ”

Philips

A solarium produces short wavelength infra red heat of the same type as the sun. Only without the harmful UV rays.

A traditional equine solarium consists of several banks of lamps on a frame that can be lowered around a tethered horse. The SunSwitch Equine Solarium kit, fitted with high-tech Philips elements, produces this same infra red warmth and includes all you need to make your own solarium at a fraction of the cost. Better still, our heaters do not need to be raised and lowered, which is often frightening for a nervous



horse. The heaters are fixed in position safely out of reach of the horse, above and to either side of its flanks. When Equine SunSwitch is used in a loose box it is not usually necessary to restrain the horse - ideal for foaling or sick animals.

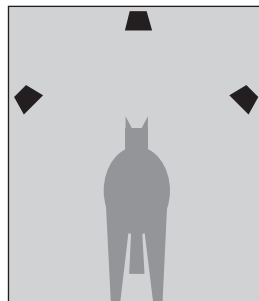
Typically a traditional solarium has limited uses. It is employed mostly as an adjunct to therapy, with horses being exposed to around 20 minutes

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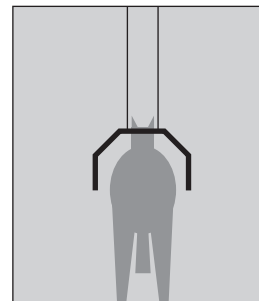
at a time. One of the chief advantages of Equine SunSwitch is that it can be used for extended periods, and there is room to access the horse at the same time. This is particularly helpful where physiotherapy is required. Horses and ponies generally find Equine SunSwitch very soothing and calming, whereas many fidget and show signs of stress and within the confines of a traditional solarium.

Equine SunSwitch is weather, spray and dust proof so it has a whole range of uses, such as horse and rug drying and clipping. Heat levels are easily adjusted using our VR1 regulators, providing great flexibility of use.

The high capital cost of a conventional solarium, together with its fixed configuration, makes it unsuitable for most of the varied Equine SunSwitch applications. Each Equine SunSwitch unit costs as little as 8p per hour to run and replacement elements are readily available through our next-day postal service. Installation by your favourite electrician is quick and simple, and units may be added or re-positioned at any time, providing great flexibility.



Equine SunSwitch solarium
(heaters mounted well clear of horse with room to manoeuvre)



Traditional solarium
(frame lowers around horse, restricting movement)



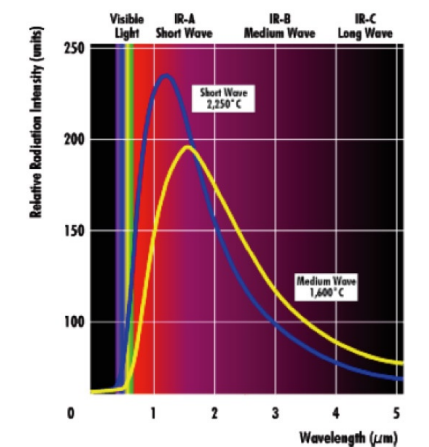
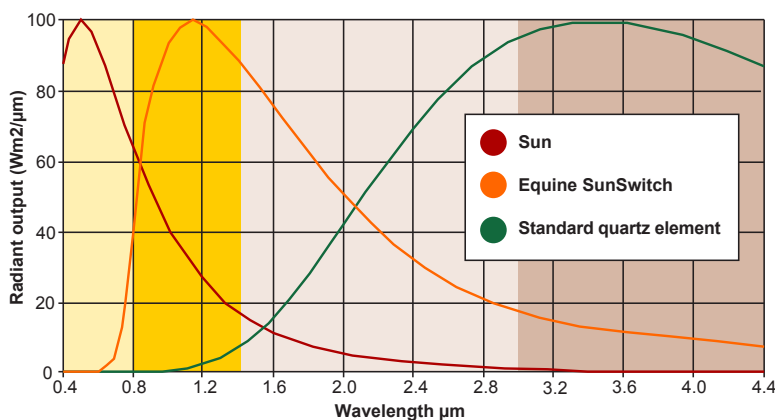
The infra red spectrum is divided into three categories; short, medium and long-wave. Short-wave infra red is used among other things, for healthcare and therapy applications, both for treating animals and people, and for breeding and rearing.

As can be seen from the diagram below, Equine SunSwitch mimics the infra red heat output of the sun, the most natural and wholesome form of warmth, but without any of the sun's potentially harmful ultraviolet rays. Most of the energy from Equine SunSwitch is produced in the short-wave (IR-A) region. The lower diagram highlights how this kind of infra red energy is readily absorbed into muscle tissue, whereas medium and long wavelength infra red are not.

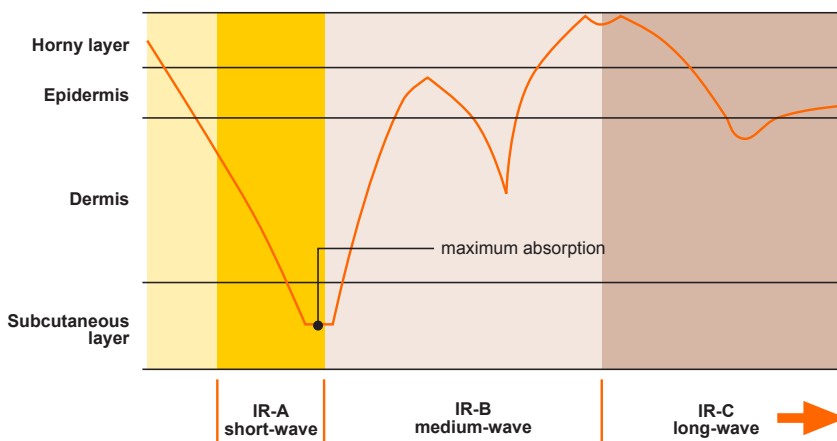
For reference, the green line in the top diagram shows the infra red heat output of a standard quartz element. This is entirely different from Equine SunSwitch; most of the energy from the standard element is produced at wavelengths that do not penetrate effectively and thus cannot be used for therapeutic purposes.

Short-wave infra red is also readily absorbed by inert materials, which is why Equine SunSwitch is great for drying both horses and rugs.

Infra red heat sources compared



Depth of infra red absorption into body



Not all quartz halogen elements are the same. The Philips element in Equine SunSwitch (blue line above) has a higher output at a shorter wavelength than a proprietary lower cost oem element (yellow line).