

Starting 13,500 BTU RV A/C With a PH3100Ri

The PH3100Ri should run most 13,500 BTU A/C units without difficulty.

Bring the generator to a normal operating temperature before applying the air conditioning load. All other loads should be turned off until the air conditioner has started and is performing normally. It may be necessary to turn the economy switch off to allow the generator to run at higher rpm at idle. Keep additional power consumption to a minimum and avoid using other large wattage devices while running the A/C unit as this may demand more than the generator can produce, causing overload.

Always allow a 2 minute wait period when manually cycling an air conditioner off and on; this gives time for pressures within the A/C system equalize and the compressor motor will start much easier. A longer wait period may be required under unusually hot weather conditions. Follow the air conditioner manufacturer's instructions for starting and restarting for proper operation.

The PH3100Ri is rated at 3000W (25.0amps@120V) and has a peak capability of 3150W (26.25amps@120V). Typical starting surge amps for 13.5K A/C units range from 25-32 amps. The constant running amperage drops to 15-17 amps immediately after this surge. So it's the amount of surge amps the A/C unit draws and the duration of the surge that determines whether or not a 3000W generator will run it.

Some 13.5K BTU A/C units may require that a hard start capacitor be installed to run with generators of this size. The hard start capacitor helps provide the momentary high amperage surge that is necessary for starting the compressor motor of some 13.5K units. Most air conditioner manufacturers offer a hard start capacitor as an extra cost option. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations when selecting and installing a hard start capacitor on your A/C unit.

Before reporting that any generator will not run a 13.5K A/C; verify that the generator is producing its rated power, and check the power draw of the coach. Contact your air conditioner dealer if you consistently have problems starting your air conditioner with the generator. This generator is not generally recommended for air conditioners exceeding 13,500 BTUs.