CLAIMS:

1. A method of operating a liquid crystal display (LCD), comprising:

observing a measured temperature of an LCD panel;

comparing the measured temperature to a threshold temperature;

when the measured temperature is below a threshold temperature, comparing the measured temperature to one or more set points; and

controlling one or more contrast parameters of the LCD panel in response to the measured temperature; and

operating a heating panel at one of a plurality of control rates in response to the comparison of the measured temperature to the one or more set points, wherein:

the heating panel is arranged between the LCD panel and a backlight for the LCD panel; and

the heating panel comprises a transparent substance that is electrically resistive.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of control rates comprise controlling a pulse width modulation circuit at different duty cycle levels.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more contrast parameters include one or more of potentiometer value, bias ratio, and gain value.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the transparent substance is indium-tin-oxide.

5. A liquid crystal display (LCD) unit with temperature compensation, comprising:

a housing;

an LCD panel arranged in the housing;

a backlight for the LCD panel arranged in the housing;

a heating panel arranged between the LCD panel and the backlight and the heating panel comprises a transparent substance that is electrically resistive;

a temperature sensor arranged at the LCD panel and configured to measure a temperature of the LCD panel; and

a controller arranged to receive information from the temperature sensor, the controller being configured to compare the measured temperature to a threshold temperature, wherein when the measured temperature is below the threshold temperature the controller is further configured to compare the measured temperature to one or more set points and control the heating panel and one or more contrast parameters of the LCD panel in response to the comparison of the measured temperature from the temperature sensor with the one or more set points.

6. The LCD unit of claim 5, wherein the transparent substance is indium-tin-oxide.

7. The LCD unit of claim 5, wherein the controller includes a PWM circuit arranged to deliver power to the heating panel at a selected duty cycle.

8. The LCD unit of claim 5, further comprising one or more spacers arranged between the LCD panel and the heating panel.