

### **On using Teflon tape on the Westfalia's propane connections**

I'm no plumber, but I can assure you that it is not necessary, and perhaps even unwise to put plumber's (teflon) tape on the compression fittings of the propane line.

The sealing surface is not the threads, but rather the thin "bead" where the copper pipe itself mates up to the male fitting coming out of the fridge. If this seal is not being made, the teflon tape will only mask the problem, and probably not permanently (with life-threatening results).

Another problem is that the tape itself, especially if applied by the unknowing (let's see...if one turn of tape is good, then three or four must be great, right?). In this case, the tape may actually prevent the line from seating and thereby sealing properly.

Finally, with teflon being so slippery, it may actually be possible to overtighten and even fracture the fittings.

I say, best to not try and improve on the factory procedure in this case. Just tighten all the fittings, turn on the tank, and check each joint with soapy water (if it tries to blow bubbles, it's leaking).

Oh, and no smoking, okay?