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CGA Connection Safety Alert

Many users mistakenly use Teflon tape on the threads of a CGA outlet connection. This will not help seal the connection since it is a straight thread. These threads mechanically compress the CGA 350, 540, etc nipples into the outlet creating a seal. In the case of PTFE washers (CGA 330, 660, etc) they compress the washers creating the seal.

The first picture is from a CGA 580 connection. The nipple at the end is what creates the high pressure seal. The second is from a gasketed connection that relies on compression from the threads.



Use of teflon on the threads can cause the connection to leak as the cylinder pressure pushes against the valve outlet causing the fitting to move away from the nipple or gasket. At high pressures, the Teflon tape can also cold flow

I see this quite often at user locations. It is an unsafe practice

Eugene Ngai