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APPLIANCE CONNECTORS

Appliance connectors are corrugated metal tubes used to connect gas appliances to fuel gas supply pipes in your home or business. Some older brass connectors have a serious flaw in how their tubing was joined to their end pieces. Over time, the end pieces can separate from the tubing and cause a serious gas leak, explosion or fire. To our knowledge, these dangerous uncoated brass connectors have not been made for more than twenty (20) years, but many of them are still in use. The older these connectors get, the greater the possibility of failure.

Although not all uncoated connectors have this flaw, it is very difficult to tell which ones do. Therefore, any uncoated brass connector should be replaced immediately with either a new plastic-coated brass or a new stainless steel connector. Connectors can wear out from too much moving, bending or corrosion. Connectors should always be replaced whenever the appliance is replaced or moved from its location.

If you believe that you have an older connector in your home, have a qualified contractor inspect the connector and replace it if necessary. Do not attempt to check connectors yourself.

Moving the appliance, even slightly, whether to clean behind it or to inspect its gas connector, can cause the complete failure of one of these older weakened connectors, possibly resulting in a deadly fire or explosion.

Be sure to follow these appliance connector safety guidelines:

- ▶ Make sure that connectors are installed where no one will step, sit, lean or place a heavy object on them.
- ▶ Never have a connector installed through a wall, floor or ceiling.
- ▶ An appliance connector should not be more than six feet (6') long.
- ▶ Each appliance should have a shut-off valve installed on the house piping before the connector.
- ▶ A new connector should be installed every time an appliance is replaced.