



**Dave Schumann, General Manager
Customer Relations Group**

Hello from Ohio! Since the last edition of Schu's News, I had the opportunity to attend the Florida State Rally in Sarasota. It was a fun week with the opportunity to visit many old friends and field lots of questions. I really enjoy hearing your suggestions and comments concerning our products and provide topics for future articles. Thank you for the opportunity to attend and if I forgot or didn't answer your question completely, please give me a call.

Here are a couple questions from the recent Rally:

Refrigerator Door Air Leaks

Recent question: My refrigerator seems to frost up all the time and does not seem to be keeping things as cold as it once did. What is wrong?

Dometic recommends checking your door gaskets as the first step in trouble shooting this issue. Check the gasket on the doors to be sure of a positive air seal. A simple method to check gaskets is to close the door on a dollar bill, then pull the dollar bill out. If no resistance is felt, the gasket in that place is not sealing properly.

This should be done on all four sides of the door in several places. If a gasket is not sealing properly, lift up inside of door gasket and insert 1/4" ball of fiberglass insulation at all four corners on both doors. This is especially important to the top corners.

Next warm the gasket material with a hair dryer. Then close the door and the magnetic strip should pull the gasket to the metal frame. Leave door closed until the material has cooled. Then recheck for a positive seal. If a positive seal cannot be achieved, replace the door gasket

Note: Air leaks will cause insufficient cooling as well as rapid formation of frost.

Leveling your Dometic Refrigerator

Question: How level does the trailer need to be for the refrigerator to operate properly?

Leveling is one of the requirements for proper operation of absorption refrigerators. The absorption design utilizes no mechanical pumps or compressors to circulate the refrigerant within the system, so proper leveling must be maintained to provide the correct refrigerant flow. Without proper leveling, refrigerant within the cooling unit will collect and stagnate at certain areas.

Without proper refrigerant flow, the cooling process will stop. Absorption refrigerators have a type of cooling unit that utilizes an enclosed pump tube surrounded by a solution to protect the assembly.

To ensure proper leveling, the vehicle needs to be leveled so it is comfortable to live in. (No noticeable sloping of floor or walls). A number recommendation would be no more than 3 degrees of slope for long periods.

When the vehicle is moving, leveling is not critical as the rolling and pitching movement of the vehicle will pass to either side of level, keeping the refrigerant from accumulating in the piping.

STA'-PUT Multi-Purpose Spray Adhesive



Now available. At the recent Florida State Rally a customer recommended a spray adhesive for the interior ceiling and wall coverings used in Airstream trailers. The product is called STA'-PUT adhesive and comes in a 15 oz. spray can for easy application. Works well on plastic laminates, edge banding, mirrors, vinyl and other applications where strong heat resistant bonds are required. It can be ordered through our online store www.airstream.com or call 937-596-6111, ext. 7418.

Airstream Part Number 360282-02

The Use of Centramatic Automatic Wheel Balancers with Nev-R-Lube Bearings

The following topic is from our supplier, Dexter Axle, who was providing customer support at the Florida State Rally. Andy Jamison, Senior Sales Engineer for Dexter Axle, provided the following comments concerning the use of the Centramatic wheel balancers in conjunction with the Nev-R-Lube cartridge bearing system currently used on all 25 ft. and larger Airstream trailers.

Andy's comments: I was at your owners rally last week in Sarasota, FL along with one of our service technicians.

A few people mentioned the below wheel balancing product and I also noticed it mentioned several times on "Air Forums." What I can gather is that this is a system that goes between the wheel and axle hub.

On Dexter's Nev-R-Lube bearings, a zero set wheel is required. If you install a zero set wheel at the plant and then someone installs this Centramatic system, being however thick, it creates a wheel centerline outboard of the center of the bearing/hub face.

This situation would drastically reduce the life of the Nev-R-Lube bearing and/or result in bearing failure.

I wanted to bring this observation to someone's attention at Airstream, **Centramatic Automatic Wheel Balancers for RV's are NOT recommended with Nev-R-Lube bearings.**



Nev-R-Lube Bearing
Cartridge System

I know what you mean!

You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there.

George Burns

Have a great month and I will see you on down the road!