

## Fin Super Fin Lube TF

### Application

#### **Interflon Fin Super, a truly multifunctional oil!**

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### Reference

Text written by **Massimo Mortola**, external consultant on guns and gun lubricants for the Poligono di Rapallo (GE).

#### **Interflon Fin Super, a truly multifunctional oil!**

Anyone who has been reading this magazine for any length of time will be aware that we tend to be rather dubious about the fantastic promises made by manufacturers of oils and greases for guns. So you can imagine how sceptical we were about the slogan "A unique technology which changes the whole concept of lubrication" and the statements made by Interflon about the opportunities for the all-round use of Fin Super. But this time we have to admit that we got it wrong and we are making a public apology and acknowledging that this Dutch product does indeed offer the versatility and quality it is claimed to have.

So we would like to thank both the friend – a gunsmith by profession, working at a large Police Station – who recommended it, and Interflon's Italian subsidiary in the person of Alessandro Grelli who was always polite and extremely patient and provided us with all the documentation we asked for, even putting up with our initial scepticism.

Let's take a look at the stated chemical and physical properties: this is a semi-synthetic PTFE (Teflon) oil with a medium density (0.85 grams per millilitre at 20°C), flash point at 80° C and self-ignition at 370° C, a muddy yellow-nut brown colour common to many products to which Teflon has been added, almost insoluble in water, usable between -43° C and +170° C (although it should be pointed out that after application and evaporation of solvents the product remains effective at between -200 and +300° C). It is water-repellent, dissolves rust and unfreezes components which have seized up. It cleans and offers protection against corrosion. It offers long-term lubrication and does not contain any chlorinated or silicon-based solvents. It is available in 100 and 300 ml aerosol spray cans, and we imagine that there are also other forms available for industrial use. If you do not like sprays then there is also Fin Lube TF which is a similar product (do not despair if you cannot find it under the Interflon brand: just ask at your gun shop for Beretta OL38 oil, although be careful not to get it confused with OL32, OL35, OL36 and OL37 which have very different formulations). Prolonged contact with components made of rubber or plastic is not recommended and we are not sure whether it may not have an adverse effect upon synthetic components of modern semiautomatic weapons. However, we do think it is significant that Beretta themselves have made no comment on this point and our gunsmith friend says that he has never encountered any problems with all the (many) guns whose efficiency he is responsible for.

One essential – and actually, in terms of the way it appears, almost unique – characteristic of Fin Super is that it is a semi-dry detergent-lubricant-



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protective product (the manufacturer considers it to be “dry”, but we think our definition is more accurate). After it has been applied to metal after giving the bottle a short but necessary shake, it evaporates slowly leaving a highly adhesive film offering the great advantage that it does not grease or stain the hands and clothes, nor does it attract dust or dirt. We recommend removing any surplus with a cloth, although this is not absolutely essential. Although it is invisible, this film is fairly strong and can be detected by touch: this gets over the objection which has always been raised in relation to this kind of oil – i.e. that it makes it far too difficult to spot the moment when the product has stopped working and needs to be replaced.

In practical use we really were surprised: in spite of what we had been told, we really were not expecting a cleaning performance this good. We do not believe that Fin Super can replace a real solvent for weapons – and nor does it claim to do so - but it does offer good penetration, it removes the normal residues left by shooting with unusual efficiency and, above all, after only a few cleaning cycles, it leaves the weapon almost cleaning itself, reducing the amount of dirt adhering to the metal (even inside the barrel). This latter characteristic is something that many other products claim to do, but we have rarely actually ever come across it in practice! The anticorrosive performance was excellent: in our usual comparative test, Fin Super and Fin Lube TF beat our reference product, and this is something we have only ever seen a few times before.

Then we felt that the lubricant power was superb: as we did not have any specific equipment we had to rely on how things felt, but we do not believe we are taking any great risks in saying that we were also highly satisfied with this aspect.

So up to this point it seems like a miracle oil: well almost, because even here we managed to find a few drawbacks. The flash point is fairly low. The smell, although slight and far from the most unpleasant we have come across, is persistent and remains on the hands for a long time even after repeated washing. Less agreeable for us was the fact that we found this oil to be slightly irritant to the hands, as stated in the safety datasheet provided by Interflon and contrary to what our gunsmith friend had found using it every day with no problems. Nothing serious, but enough for us to recommend using a barrier cream or, better still, latex gloves.

Notwithstanding these things we have duly pointed out, our final judgement on Fin Super/Fin Lube TF is extremely positive and we really do recommend that you give it a try with your weapons.

For information: Interflon Italia Srl, Strada Crosassa 16/b, 12042 Bra (CN); tel. 0172/423500, fax 0172/423525. Website: [www.interflon.com](http://www.interflon.com); [interflon@interflon.it](mailto:interflon@interflon.it) .

**Massimo Mortola**

**Branch**

Police/Fire-Brigade/Public service  
3484 Small arms

**AS created by**

Alessandro GRELLI [agrelli@interflon.it](mailto:agrelli@interflon.it)

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**INTERFLON B.V., P.O. Box 1070  
NL-4700 BB ROOSENDAAL  
TEL. (31) 165 55 39 11 / FAX (31) 165 53 80 82**

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