

Issue No.: 5/2012 – Filter inserts KX 178 D, KX 228 D, and KX 220 D (VW/Audi applications): risk of leaks due to assembly error

An increased number of fuel filter inserts have recently been sent to the MAHLE Aftermarket filter specialists because of leaks that occurred after filter replacement.

The filter inserts and the relevant replacement gaskets for the housing cover were examined and proved to be free from defects.

However, the examination of the housing parts indicated a deformation of the housing cover, caused by incorrect opening and/or closing of the filter housing.

Our advice: it is essential to ensure that no damage to the housing cover occurs when the filter element is professionally replaced.

HOW DAMAGE CAN OCCUR (AND HOW IT CAN BE PREVENTED)

- An unsuitable tool is used to remove the cover (VW recommends the use of the special tool VW number VAS6543).
- The cover is not levered off at the designated point (see photo); the same applies to the housing cover's gasket ring.
- The new gasket ring for the housing cover is not adequately wetted with fuel.
- The cover is only closed against the housing by tightening the bolts (the cover should be pushed on to the housing by hand and only then tightened with the bolts to create a perfect seal).



Point for correctly levering off the cover

Figure 1: This housing cover (KX 178) was deformed by being opened and/or closed incorrectly.