

## Issue no. 08/2024

### Suspected leaky fuel filter elements

*Repeated complaints are made about certain fuel filter elements for VW and Audi as a result of suspected leaks. However, these issues are caused by assembly errors, not the parts themselves.*

The complaints relate to the filter elements for VW/Audi KX 178 D, KX 228 D, and KX 220 D. Our filter specialists inspected the components in question and did not find any damage to the filter elements or seals. However, they did find significant deformation of the housing covers, which was probably caused by the filter housings being opened and/or closed incorrectly.



Figure 1: Correct point for levering off the cover

#### How to avoid leaks

These points are essential when replacing the abovementioned fuel filter elements:

- The housing cover and associated sealing ring may only be levered off at the intended point (see Figure 1).
- Suitable tools should be used for disassembly (VAG recommends the special tool VAS 6543).
- The new cover sealing ring must be sufficiently coated with fuel before assembly.
- The housing cover should first be pressed onto the housing by hand to prevent tilting and ensure the seal is seated securely. Only then should the cover be screwed to the housing.



Figure 2: VAG special tool VAS 6543

#### Important!

To ensure the filter element is replaced properly, and to prevent damage, the filter housing may only be opened at the intended point using a suitable tool. The cover seal should be coated with fuel before fitting and the cover pressed on by hand before it is screwed into place.