

Model(s)	Year	Eng. Code	Trans. Code	VIN Range From	VIN Range To
All Models (except Routan)	2013-2016	All	All	All	All

### Condition

00 15 03 June 5, 2015 2040590

PDI – Paint Defect - Water Migration Under the RAPGARD®



Water migration under the RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> can be mistaken as a paint defect when in fact it is only moisture trapped in the clear coat of the paint. See Examples 1-10 to see how water migration may appear.

## **Technical Background**

When RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> is applied at the factory, humidity in the air can get trapped between the plastic and the paint. Over time this moisture can be absorbed into the clear coat creating marks.

## **Production Solution**

Not Applicable.

### Service

#### **Topics Covered**

- RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>, removal and disposal
- Inspecting for water migration in areas where RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> was removed.
- Examples of water migration after the RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> is removed

#### RAPGARD®

Vehicles are shipped with RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>. This self-adhering plastic product is applied in certain areas of the vehicle and is designed to provide protection from all types of possible damages.

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#### RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>, Removal



RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> must be removed from the vehicle no later than nine months after application. See sticker (location on vehicle body varies) for detailed information.

Vehicle must be at room temperature.

The ideal body surface temperature for RAPGARD® removal is 60°F (15.5°C) to 80°F (26.6° C).

If body surface temperatures are below 60°F (15.5°C) or above 80°F (26.6° C) then:

- Removal procedure should be performed indoors after surface temperatures have been allowed to stabilize within the given range.
- Rinse vehicle thoroughly with water to remove surface dirt or dust and to help stabilize body surface temperatures.
- Starting at the corners of each panel, carefully remove RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> from vehicle.

#### RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> Disposal

RAPGARD® can be disposed as normal paper waste. If unsure about proper disposal procedures in your area, check local regulations.

#### RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>, Paint Inspection after Removal

Inspect painted surfaces under one of the following lighting conditions:

- Indoors under fluorescent lighting.
- Outdoors under bright sunlight.

#### **Inspecting for Water Migration**

After removal of RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>, some vehicles may exhibit temporary paint discoloration or paint swelling (caused by trapped moisture under the RAPGARD<sup>®</sup>).

- This temporary swelling is caused by the paint finish absorbing moisture trapped under the RAPGARD<sup>®</sup> film.
- This swelling will disappear with exposure to the sun or heat lamps within 2 -3 hours. Severe paint swelling may require 2 -3 days to recover.

### **Note:** DO NOT buff or refinish paint for this condition!

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Paint discoloration (looks like shaded or dark magic marker lines) can be removed with a heat gun using the following procedure:

- Hold heat gun approximately 3 in. away from affected paint surfaces and apply heat using slow oscillating • motions until discoloration is gone.
- If discoloration remains, wipe the heated area with Isopropyl alcohol and repeat procedure to increase surface . drying.

#### Various Examples of Water Migration Under the RAPGARD®



Example 1

Example 2







Example 3

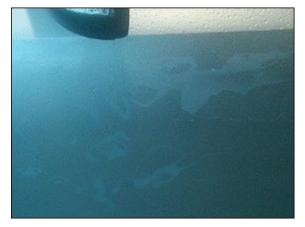
Example 4

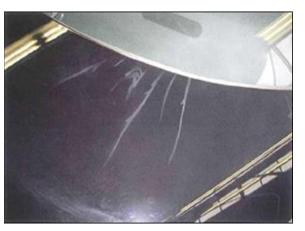
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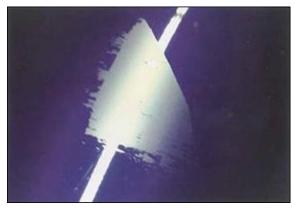






Example 5

Example 6







Example 8



Example 9



Example 10

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### Warranty

Information only.

## **Required Parts and Tools**

No parts required.

No special tools required.

### **Additional Information**

All part and service references provided in this Technical Bulletin are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Dept. and Repair Manuals for the latest information.

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