

# Technical Service Bulletin



## 40 Shock absorber leaks: assessment aid

40 15 49 2018194/7 December 18, 2015. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 40 number 14-41 dated July 2, 2014 for reasons listed below.

| Model(s) | Year        | VIN Range | Vehicle-Specific Equipment |
|----------|-------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| All      | 2006 - 2017 | All       | Not Applicable             |

## Condition

| REVISION HISTORY |           |   |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| Revision         | Date      | Purpose   |
| 7                | -         | Revised header data (Added model years)   |
| 6                | 7/2/2014  | Revised header data (Added model year)  |
| 5                | 9/23/2013 | Revised header data (Added model years)<br>Updated <i>Technical Background</i> (Added background) |

Oil appears on one or several shock absorbers.

## Technical Background

Oil may appear on a shock absorber for one of the following reasons:

- As a result of a leak because the shock absorber is damaged.
- As a result of residue from when the shock was filled during production, or as a result of slight condensation in the seal area. This small amount of oil is for lubrication and it reduces wear on the seal.

## Production Solution

Not applicable.

## Service

Determine if the shock absorber is leaking, or if the oil is only from residue or condensation:

### Leaking shock absorbers

A leaking shock absorber is characterized by a wet film of oil running down the pipe (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

Leaking shock absorbers need to be replaced.



*Figure 1. A leaking shock absorber.*



*Figure 2. A leaking shock absorber.*

## Shock absorbers with oil marks

A light film of dried oil or oil marks on the pipe beneath the dust guard are not a clear indicator of a leaking shock. These marks are a result of residue from when the shock was filled during production, or of slight condensation in the seal area. This small amount of oil is for lubrication and it reduces wear on the seal (Figure 3 and Figure 4).

This condition does not affect the shock absorber. No repair is necessary.



*Figure 3. A shock absorber that is not leaking.*



*Figure 4. A shock absorber that is not leaking.*



**Tip:** For additional information, see “Shock absorbers, checking” in the Elsa Repair Manual.

## Warranty

This TSB is informational only and not applicable to any Audi warranty.

## Additional Information

All parts and service references provided in this TSB (2018194) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and service manuals for the latest information.