Technical Service Bulletin

42 Rear axle shaft leaks at differential

SB-10058579-8401

42 15 24 2026049/9 June 30, 2015. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 42 number 13-17 dated March 18, 2013 for reasons listed below.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
S4	2010 - 2011	All	With Sports Rear Differential
S4	2012	Up to production date 7/10/2011	With Sports Rear Differential
S5	2010 - 2011	All	With Sports Rear Differential
S5	2012	Up to production date 7/10/2011	With Sports Rear Differential
S5 Cabriolet	2010 - 2011	All	With Sports Rear Differential
S5 Cabriolet	2012	Up to production date 7/10/2011	With Sports Rear Differential

Condition

REVISION HISTORY		
Revision	**Date**	**Purpose**
9	-	Revised header data (added model year)
8	3/18/2013	Revised *Required Parts and Tools* (added information)
7	10/5/2012	Revised header data

Oil is leaking in the area of the Quattro sports rear differential (PR-PDU, PDR, or GH2) side flange or axle shaft inboard flange.

Technical Background

Insufficient sealant on the protective cap on the inboard constant velocity joint at the rear differential on vehicles with a sports differential.

The following table lists PR codes that identify vehicles with a rear sports differential.

PR Code	Description	Notes
PDR	Audi drive select with rear sport differential	Must be accompanied with PR GH2 (rear sports differential)
PDU	Rear sport differential	Standalone option May be accompanied with PR GH2 Comes with Audi drive select control panel even if vehicle does not have Audi drive select functions
GH2	Rear sport differential	Standalone option May be accompanied with PR PDU or PR PDR Comes with Audi drive select control panel even if vehicle does not have Audi drive select functions

Production Solution

Optimized use of sealer in production from 07/10/2011.

Service

1. Inspect the rear inner CV joints where they connect to the rear sports differential:

   - If there is oil sweating or residue, do not make any repairs.

   - If there are clear oil drips, proceed to step 2.

2. Determine source of the fluid:

   - Grease used in the drive shaft CV joints is almost odorless. If the fluid does not have any odor, proceed to step 3.

   - Differential fluid has a pungent smell. If the fluid has a pungent smell, this TSB does not apply.

3. Replace the affected drive shaft per Elsa instructions.

   Tip: It is not necessary to replace both drive shafts if only one drive shaft is affected by this condition.

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Warranty

Claim Type:	Use applicable claim type. If vehicle is outside any warranty, this Technical Service Bulletin is informational only.		
Service Number:	4221		
Damage Code:	0010		
Labor Operations:	Remove and install final drive for sports differential	3988 1903	370 TU
	Remove and install final drive for sports differential – S5 Cabriolet	3988 1903	420 TU
	Remove and install drive shaft	4221 1950	70 TU
	Remove and install 2 drive shafts	4221 2050	130 TU
Diagnostic Time:	GFF – Checking and clearing fault codes included in existing labor operations	No allowance	0 TU
	Road test prior to service procedure	No allowance	0 TU
	Road test after service procedure	0121 0004	10 TU
	Technical diagnosis at dealer's discretion (Refer to Section 2.2.1.2 and Audi Warranty Online for DADP allowance details)		
Claim Comment:	As per TSB #2026049/9		

All warranty claims submitted for payment must be in accordance with the *Audi Warranty Policies and Procedures Manual*. Claims are subject to review or audit by Audi Warranty.

Required Parts and Tools

Part Number	Part Description	Quantity
8K0501203L	Left drive shaft with constant velocity joints	1
8K0501204L	Right drive shaft with constant velocity joints	1

If remanufactured parts are available, only the value of the remanufactured part will be reimbursed.

Additional Information

All parts and service references provided in this TSB (2026049) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and service manuals for the latest information.