

# Technical Service Bulletin



## 97 Electrical complaints in rear trunk area

97 16 55 2043968/1 April 25, 2016.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
A3	2015 - 2016	All	Not Applicable

## Condition

- The customer complains of one or more of the following concerns:
  - The trunk cannot be opened with handle button. It can only be opened with remote control key.
  - The left tail light in the trunk lid does not work.
  - When trunk is being opened, the tail lights intermittently do not work
  - The license plate lights do not work.
  - The license plate lights flicker when trunk is being opened.
  - The backup camera does not work.
  - When trunk is being opened, the rearview camera intermittently does not work.
- One or more of the following DTCs is present in the vehicle electrical system control module, J519 (address word 01), and can be static or sporadic:
  - **DTC B12BE15** (Lamp for left tail light, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12BF15** (Lamp for right tail light, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12CB15** (Lamp for left reversing light, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12CC15** (Lamp for right reversing light, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12CE15** (Lamp 2 for left turn signal, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12CF15** (Lamp 2 for right turn signal, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12DD15** (Motor for central locking in rear lid, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12CA15** (Number plate light, interruption/short circuit to earth)
  - **DTC B125C13** (Video cable, interruption)
  - **DTC B12C715** (Lamp for left rear fog light, interruption/short circuit to positive)
  - **DTC B12C815** (Lamp for right rear fog light, interruption/short circuit to positive)

## Technical Background

When the rear lid is opened or closed, a wire (or wires) can break in the area of the trunk hinge of the left or right rear lid wiring harness.

- The functions for the trunk, rear exterior lights and external release button are contained in the left rear lid wiring harness.
- The function of the rearview camera is contained in the right rear lid wiring harness.

## Production Solution

Improved wire harness routing introduced into series production.

## Service

1. Check the rear lid wiring for damage in the area of the trunk hinge (Figure 1 - Figure 3).

If the wiring harness is damaged in the area of the trunk hinge, it must be replaced. Follow the instructions below.



**Tip:** The repair kits are listed in the Parts Catalog under “harness for liftgate single parts”. When ordering a replacement harness, note that the right harness is only for cars with a rearview camera.



*Figure 1. Wire damage at trunk hinge.*



*Figure 2. Wire damage at trunk hinge.*



**Figure 3.** Incorrect wire routing at trunk hinge.

## **Instructions for right side repair (Installation of reversing camera cable):**

The following tools are required:

- VAS 1978 B (see attachment)
- VAS 1978/29
- Side cutters

The following parts are required:

- Repair cable for right side on vehicles with reversing camera (PR code KA2) (See parts catalog “wiring harness for read lid.”)
- Textile adhesive tape (part number D 373125A2)

1. Disconnect battery.
2. Remove the right rear lid trim and right locking element of the rear lid hinge according to the Elsa repair manual.
3. Take photographs of the routing of the wiring harness reversing camera from the rear lid to the right reversing camera control unit (Figure 1). These photographs will be used for reference later.





**Figure 1.** Examples of photographs of the routing of the wiring harness. The routing may differ depending of vehicle.

4. Loosen the wiring harness to the reversing camera control unit and cut it off on the junction of the main wiring harness (Figure 2). Wrap textile adhesive tape around cut-off cable.



**Figure 2.** Cut cable off on the junction of the main wiring harness (red separation line).

- Before fitting the service wiring harness, place the clips supplied with the wiring harness (Figure 3) on the body in such a way that the wiring harness does not touch any edges or could be trapped by the mountings of the trim.



Figure 3. Clip supplied with wiring harness.

- Fit the service wiring harness. For correct routing, refer to the photographs taken in step 3. Note that one of the clips from the previously-fitted harness is no longer needed (Figure 4).

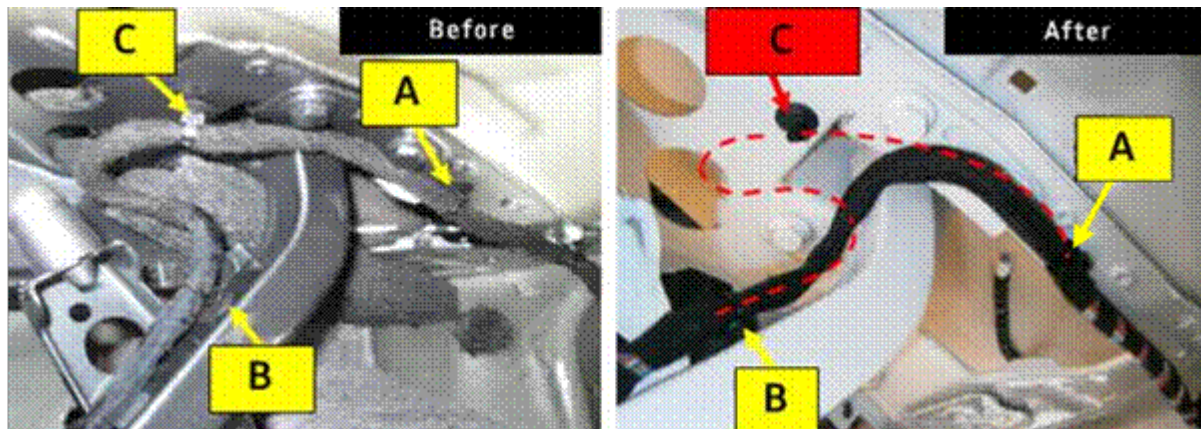


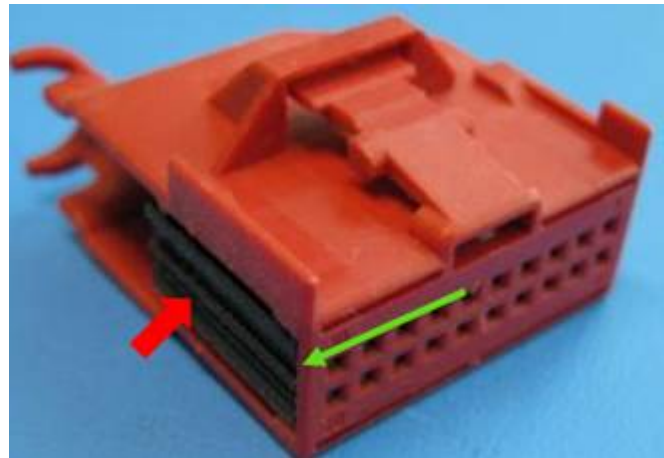
Figure 4. Note that clip "C" in the image above is not needed when the service wiring harness is fitted.

- Loosen the red connector T20i on the reversing camera control unit (Figure 5). Remove the cable tie on the connector.



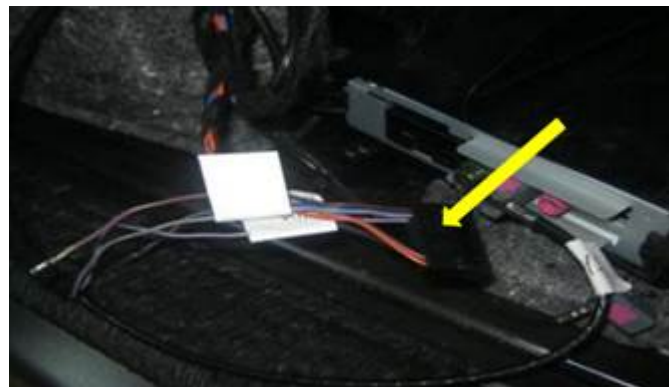
Figure 5. Loosen red connector T20i.

8. Pull black bar out of housing (Figure 6).



**Figure 6.** Pull black bar (red arrow) out of housing in direction of green arrow.

9. Use VAS 1978/29 to remove the contacts (pin 9 (grey/brown) and pin 19 (grey/red)). To unlock contacts position VAS 1978/29 at side (Figure 7), then contacts can be removed.



**Figure 7.** To unlock contacts, position VAS 1978/29 at side.

10. Cut off the removed cables and insulate ends with textile adhesive tape.
11. Lock the contacts of the new wiring harness in chamber 9 (grey/brown) and chamber 19 (grey/red). Then, lock the black bar in connector T20i and secure the cable with cable tie on the connector collar.
12. Unplug and cut the grey aerial plug off of the reversing camera cable. Insulate the cut-off aerial cable with textile adhesive tape.
13. Connect the grey aerial plug of the service wiring harness on the reversing camera control unit.
14. Connect the battery and check the function of the reversing camera.

15. Wrap the wiring harness with textile adhesive tape on the main wiring harness (Figure 8).



**Figure 8.** Wrap the wiring harness with textile adhesive tapes at red marks.

16. Fit trim, making sure that wiring harness does not get trapped.

### **Instructions for left side repair (Fitting rear lid wiring harness for lights and handle button):**

The following tools are required:

- VAS 1978 B (see attachment)
- VAG 1526 C
- VAG 1594 C
- Side cutters
- Caliper

The following parts are required:

- Repair cable for right side on vehicles with reversing camera (PR code KA2) (See parts catalog "wiring harness for read lid.)
- Repair cable for left side:
  - Taillights in rear lid, LED (PR code 8SK)
- Textile adhesive tape (part number D 373125A2)
- Crimp connector, based on cable diameter (see parts catalog illustrations 979-30, 979-40, and 979-05)

1. Disconnect battery.
2. Remove rear lid trim, left side trim, and locking element of rear lid hinge according to the Elsa repair manual.
3. Remove the outer left taillight.

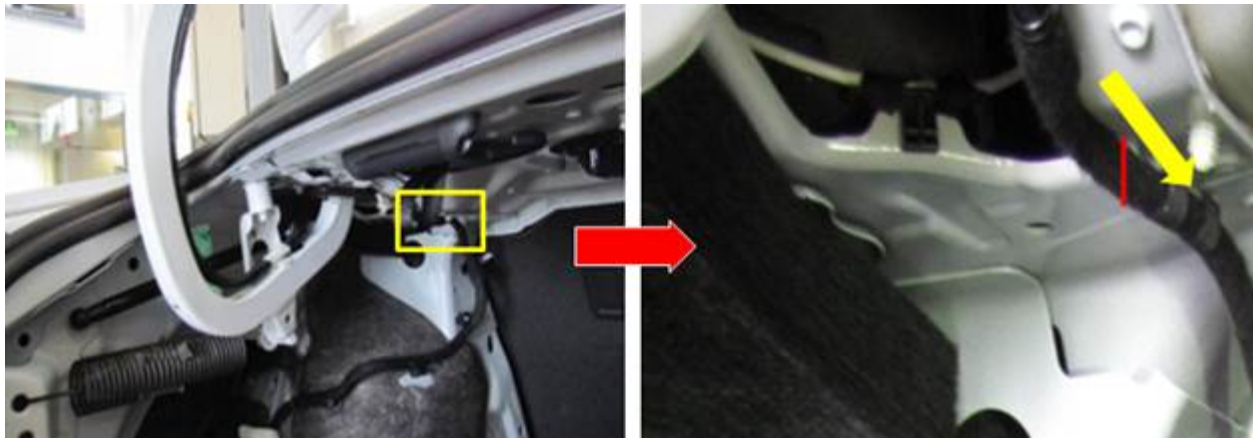
4. Take photographs of the routing of the rear lid wiring harness (Figure 8). These photographs will be used for reference later.



**Figure 8.** Examples of photographs of the routing of the wiring harness. The routing may differ depending of vehicle.

5. Remove the left rear lid wiring harness and cut the cable off before the last unlevered clip (Figure 9).





**Figure 9.** Cut the cable at before the last unlevered clip (at red separation line, before clip marked by yellow arrow).

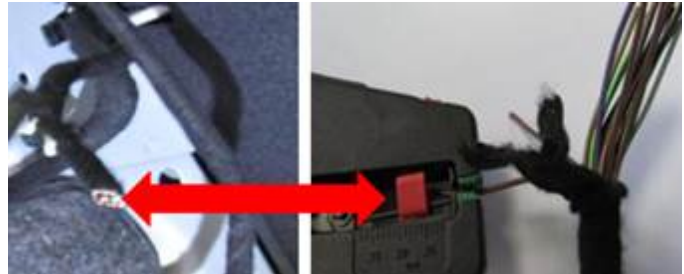
6. Open the winding of the cut-off vehicle wiring harness to the junction of the main wiring harness on separable area (Figure 10).



**Figure 10.** Open the winding of the cut-off vehicle wiring harness to the junction of the main harness on separable area (red marks).

7. The taillights on the rear lid are supplied from the outer taillights. In both the production and the service wiring harness, the left and right taillights have the same brown/red cable colors. Ensure that these cables are not mixed up when they are connected to the main wiring harness. There are stickers on the service wiring harness that show to which side each brown/red cable belongs.

- Only one of the two cables must be assigned to one side on the cut-off vehicle wiring harness.  
Remove the insulation on both brown/red cables on the vehicle wiring harness (Figure 11).



**Figure 11.** Remove the insulation on both brown/red cables on the vehicle wiring harness.

- Set the VAG 1526 C to current flow check and connect the probe cables to the VAG 1526 C (Figure 12).



**Figure 12.** Set the VAG 1526 C to current flow check and connect the probe cables.

- Connect the meter probes of the VAG 1594 C to the probe cables of the VAG 1526 C. The required meter probes from VAG 1594 C are number 18 and number 12 (Figure 13).



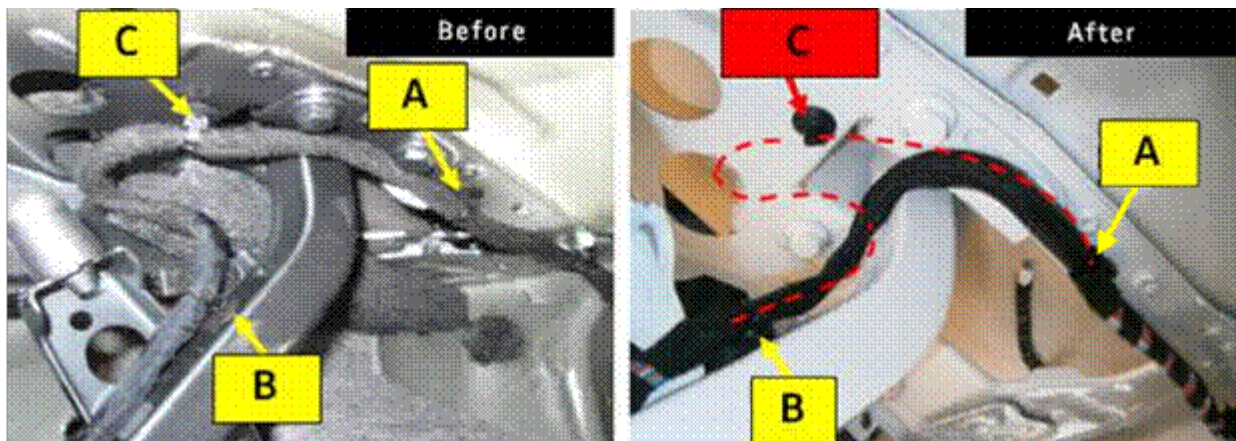
**Figure 13.** Required meter probes from VAG 1594 C.

11. Remove the insulation of the two brown/red cables of the unwound wiring section.
12. Hold the black meter probe of the prepared VAG 1526 C on one of the two brown/red cables.
13. Hold the red meter probe on the connector T6 and of the outer left taillight, chamber 4 brown/red (left outer taillight).
14. When there is a trough-flow, the VAG 1526 C will make a sound. Mark the cable with the measured through-flow with yellow insulation tape. Write "L" (for left side) on the tape.
15. Before fitting the service wiring harness, place the clips supplied with the wiring harness (Figure 14) on the body in such a way that the wiring harness does not touch any edges or could be trapped by the mountings of the trim.



**Figure 14.** Clip supplied with wiring harness.

16. Fit the service wiring harness. For correct routing, refer to the photographs taken in step 4. Note that one of the clips from the previously-fitted harness is no longer needed (Figure 15).



**Figure 15.** Note that clip "C" in the image above is not needed when the service wiring harness is fitted.

17. Use the crimp connector of VAS 1987 B to connect the brown/red vehicle cable with the yellow insulation tape to the brown/red cable of the service wiring harness for the left side, then check the connection by pulling.

For the dimension of the crimp connector, see the current flow diagram (0.5 mm<sup>2</sup>, 1.5 mm<sup>2</sup>, etc.).

Use the crimp connector to connect the second brown/red vehicle cable to the brown/red cable for the right

side with a crimp connector, then check the connection by pulling.

18. Heat up the crimp connector with the electric blower from VAS 1978 B until the adhesive comes out. Follow the instructions in the attached document for VAS 1978 B.
19. Refit the taillights.
20. Connect battery, confirm function, and clear any DTCs stored during repair.
21. Wrap textile adhesive tape D 373125A2 around the repaired cable section.
22. Fit trim, making sure that wiring harness does not get trapped.

# Technical Service Bulletin



## Warranty

<b>Claim Type:</b>	Use applicable claim type. If vehicle is outside any warranty, this Technical Service Bulletin is informational only.		
<b>Service Number:</b>	9727		
<b>Damage Code:</b>	0015		
<b>Labor Operations:</b>	<b>Left side repair only:</b>		
	Repair wiring harness for rear lid	9727 4199	350 TU
	<b>Right side repair only:</b>		
	Repair wiring harness for rear lid	9727 4199	160 TU
	<b>Repair of BOTH left and right sides at same time:</b>		
	Repair wiring harness for rear lid	9727 4199	440 TU
<b>Diagnostic Time:</b>	GFF	0150 0000	Time stated on diagnostic protocol (Max 60 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)		
<b>Claim Comment:</b>	As per TSB #2043968/1		

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
See ETKA (use FI search)	Left Harness for liftgate with LED taillights	1 (as needed)
See ETKA (use FI search)	Right Harness for liftgate with rearview camera	1 (as needed)

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## Additional Information

All parts and service references provided in this TSB (2043968) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and service manuals for the latest information.