Technical Service Bulletin

94 Exterior lights, moisture accumulation

94 19 18 2012749/14 December 6, 2019. Supersedes Technical Service Bulletin Group 94 number 17-91 dated July 31, 2017 for reasons listed below.

Model(s)	Year	VIN Range	Vehicle-Specific Equipment
All except Audi e-tron quattro	1996 - 2021	All	Not Applicable

Condition

REVISION HISTORY		
Revision	**Date**	**Purpose**
14	-	Revised header (Added MY20 and MY21)
13	07/31/2017	Revised header (Added model years) Revised *Condition* (Added photo) Revised *Technical Background* (Updated information) Revised *Service* (Added photos and updated procedure)
12	04/17/2015	Revised header (Added model years)

Customer states:

- Condensation is visible on the inside of the headlight, taillight, fog light, side marker light, front turn signal, daytime running lights, and/or third brake light lens (Figure 1).

Figure 1. *Condensation on the inside of the lights.*

Technical Background

The headlight ventilation system allows air from the exterior of the assembly to pass through the headlights. This open water-protected ventilation system (which is needed for pressure compensation) creates different climate zones in the headlight: very warm areas, where the lens is warmed up by the light, and relatively cool areas, where the lens is cooled down by the airflow.

Considerable differences in humidity and temperature between the inside and the outside of the headlights, even when the car is being driven, can create condensation. While condensation is most common in cold and wet weather, it can also occur after a car wash, or when the temperature changes. Condensation is more visible on lenses made of clear glass than on lenses with patterns. The moisture does not affect the headlight function or light performance, and it does not lead to corrosion or damage to other headlight parts.

Technical Service Bulletin

Production Solution

Not applicable.

Service

Always check for TSBs that are specific to your vehicle configuration and specific customer concern. This TSB only provides a general overview when performing diagnosis, of moisture concerns which are internal to an exterior lighting assembly.

For the Headlamp:

1. The light emission surface (Figure 2A) of the main beam should be clear after driving 10 minutes with the main beam on.
   - Driving speeds must be consistently over 45mph for the ventilation system to properly function.
   - Residual condensation (Figure 2B) may be present depending on ambient conditions, this is normal.

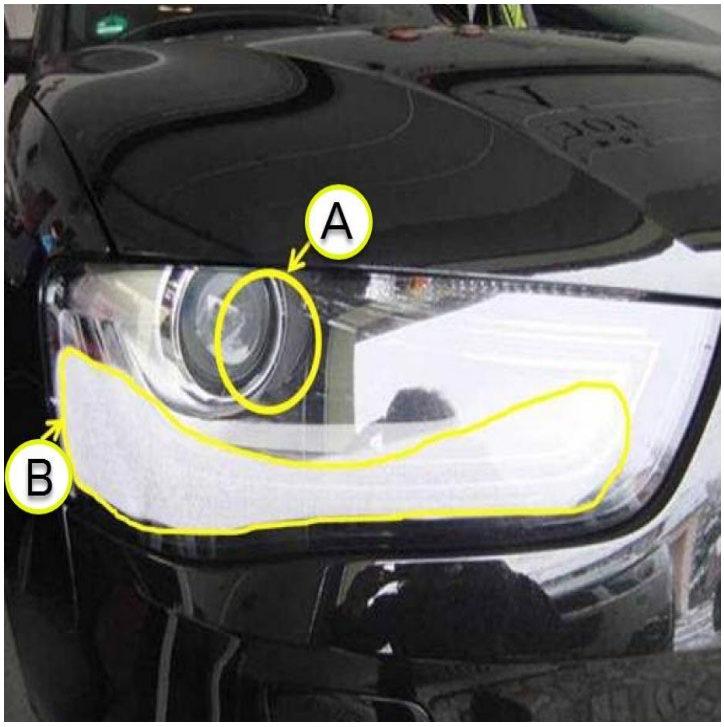

Figure 2. *A: Main beam light emission surface. B: Condensation of the headlamp.*

2. If water drops or condensation are present on the light emission surface (Figure 3A) after performing step one, inspect the headlamp assembly for the root cause:
   - Missing cover.
   - Damaged seal.
   - Clogged drain.
   - Outside influence.

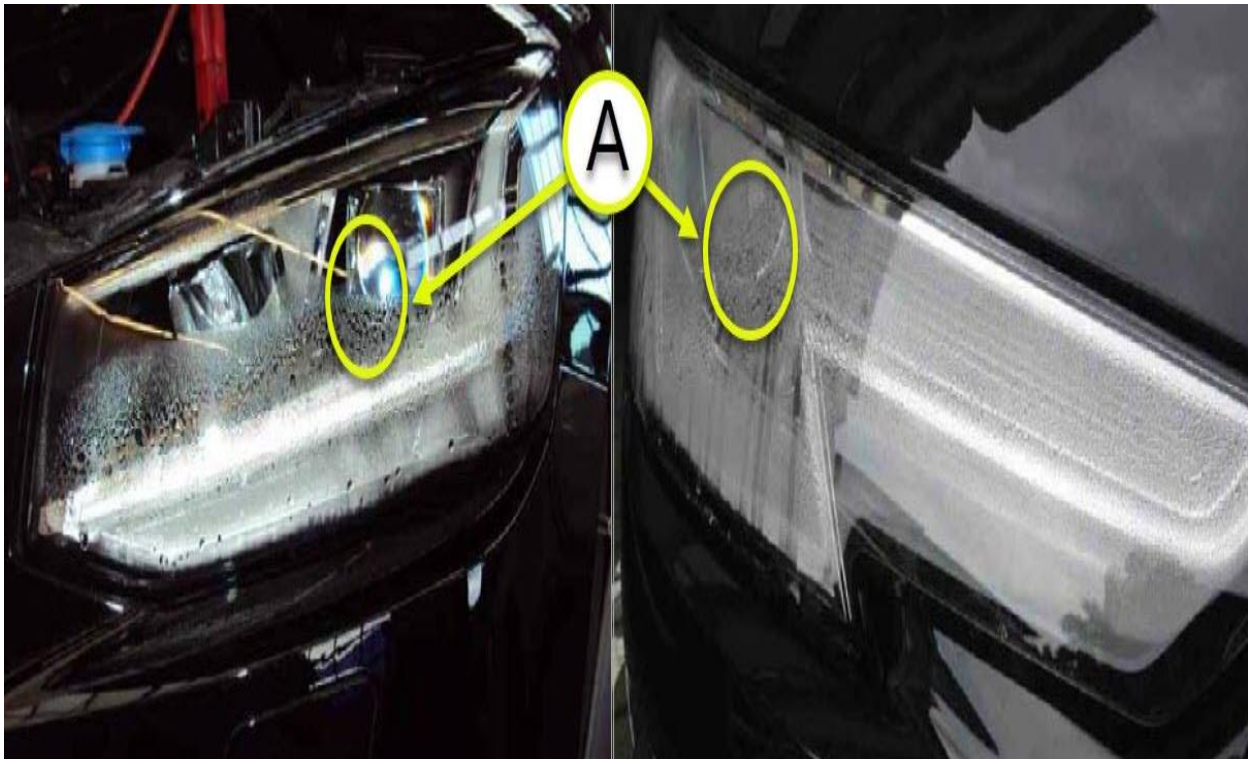

Figure 3. *A: Main beam light emission surface.*

3. Perform repair:
   - In cases where the headlamp assembly is not the root cause (clogged drain and/or missing access cover), dry the headlamp assembly with compressed air.
   - Perform a visual inspection of electrical connectors and any control modules attached to the headlight. If corrosion is found in one of these components, it must be repaired or replaced. Reference the repair manual for repair instructions.

Tip: It is helpful to take a photo before and after step 1 for visual comparison.

Technical Service Bulletin

Warranty

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

Additional Information

All part and service references provided in this TSB (2012749) are subject to change and/or removal. Always check with your Parts Department and/or ETKA for the latest information and parts bulletins. Please check the Repair Manual for fasteners, bolts, nuts, and screws that require replacement during the repair.