

# Emissions Recall

## Code: 26M7



Audi

# REVISION

Subject	Catalytic Converter & Engine Control Module (ECM) Software												
Release Date	March 31, 2020												
REVISION SUMMARY	Added work and claiming instructions in the event muffler flange studs break												
Affected Vehicles	<table><tr><th>Country</th><th>Beginning Model Year</th><th>Ending Model Year</th><th>Vehicle</th></tr><tr><td>USA</td><td>2011</td><td>2012</td><td>Q7</td></tr><tr><td>CAN</td><td>2011</td><td>2012</td><td>Q7</td></tr></table> <p>Check Campaigns/Actions screen in Elsa on the day of repair to verify that a VIN qualifies for repair under this action. Elsa is the <u>only</u> valid campaign inquiry &amp; verification source.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Campaign status must show “open.”</li><li>✓ If Elsa shows other open action(s), inform your customer so that the work can also be completed at the same time the vehicle is in the workshop for this campaign.</li></ul>	Country	Beginning Model Year	Ending Model Year	Vehicle	USA	2011	2012	Q7	CAN	2011	2012	Q7
Country	Beginning Model Year	Ending Model Year	Vehicle										
USA	2011	2012	Q7										
CAN	2011	2012	Q7										
Problem Description	Under certain high load and/or highway driving conditions vehicle exhaust temperatures may increase catalyst aging, due to thermal stress, which could lead to elevated tailpipe emissions.												
Corrective Action	Install an improved catalytic converter and updated Engine Control Module (ECM) software.												
Code Visibility	On February 27, 2020, the campaign code was applied to affected vehicles.												
Owner Notification	Owner notification took place in February 2020. Owner letter examples are included in this bulletin for your reference.												
Emissions Campaigns Requirements (CALIFORNIA ONLY)	The California Air Resources Board and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) require emissions-related campaigns to be completed prior to vehicle registration renewal. When campaign work is done you must provide the owner with a signed “Vehicle Emission Recall – Proof of Correction” certificate (RC EMISCAVWAU). Order certificates online via the Compliance Label Ordering portal at <a href="http://www.accessaudi.com">www.accessaudi.com</a> .												
Additional Information	<p><b>Please alert everyone in your dealership about this action, including Sales, Service, Parts and Accounting personnel. Contact Warranty if you have any questions.</b></p> <p>Dealers must ensure that every affected inventory vehicle has this campaign completed <u>before delivery to consumers</u>.</p> <p>Fill out and affix Campaign Completion Label (CAMP 010 000) after work is complete. Labels can be ordered at no cost via the Compliance Label Ordering portal at <a href="http://www.accessaudi.com">www.accessaudi.com</a>.</p>												

**Parts Information****Parts Control Type:**  
**VIN to order**

Due to the small number of affected vehicles there will not be a parts allocation. Please reference the Repair Projection Tool (below) to view your potential VIN population.

If parts are needed to support a vehicle repair:

- US Dealers - use AVA
- CAN Dealers - contact the Parts Specialists via phone (800-767-6552), email ([VWoAPartsSpecialists@vw.com](mailto:VWoAPartsSpecialists@vw.com)), or chat/text with the VIN to order

**Repair Projection Tool:**  
**Right click to open**

Criteria	Qty	Part Number	P.O.C. Part Description	Ordering Method
01	1	7L8-254-301-QX	Catalyst	VIN to Order
	1	7L8-254-350-SX	Catalyst	VIN to Order
	2	8K0-253-115-A	Gasket	VIN to Order
	2	7P0-253-115	Gasket	VIN to Order
	12	N -911-308-01	Nut	VIN to Order
	2	1K0-253-141-T	Clamp	VIN to Order

**NOTE**

The specified part numbers reflect the status at the start of this recall. Interim updates made in ETKA can cause a listed part number to become unavailable. In this case, the new part number specified in ETKA should be used.

### Claim Entry Instructions

After campaign has been completed, enter claim as soon as possible to help prevent work from being duplicated elsewhere. Attach the Elsa screen print showing action open on the day of repair to the repair order.

If customer refused campaign work:

- ✓ U.S. dealers: Submit the request through Audi Warranty Online under the Campaigns/Update option.
- ✓ Canada dealers: Upload the repair order [signed by customer] to Audi WIN/Operations/Campaign Closure.

<b>Service Number</b>	26M7		
<b>Damage Code</b>	0099		
<b>Parts Vendor Code</b>	002		
<b>Claim Type</b>	Sold vehicle: 7 10 Unsold vehicle: 7 90		
<b>Causal Indicator</b>	Mark left catalyst* as causal part		
<b>Vehicle Wash/Loaner</b>	Do not claim wash/loaner under this action		
<b>Vehicles may have more than one criteria. Complete and claim all applicable criteria on <u>one</u> claim.</b>			
<b>Criteria I.D.</b>	01		
	<b>LABOR</b>		
	<b>Labor Op</b>	<b>Time Units</b>	<b>Description</b>
	2673 20 99	200	Replace left and right catalysts
	<b>PARTS</b>		
	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Part Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
	1.00	7L8254301QX	Exhaust pipe with catalyst (left)*
	1.00	7L8254350SX	Exhaust pipe with catalyst (right)
	2.00	1K0253141T	Dual clamp
	2.00	7P0253115	Gasket
	2.00	8K0253115A	Gasket
	12.00	N 91130801	Shouldered hex. nut, self-locking
<b>Criteria I.D.</b>	02		
	<b>LABOR</b>		
	<b>Labor Op</b>	<b>Time Units</b>	<b>Description</b>
	2706 89 50	10	Connect battery charger
	2470 25 99	Time stated on diagnostic protocol	Update engine control module software

Continued on next page

Criteria I.D.	ALL – ( <b><u>ONLY</u></b> if muffler flange studs break)		
	<b>LABOR</b>		
	<b>Labor Op</b>	<b>Time Units</b>	<b>Description</b>
	2625 01 99	20 (for each broken muffler stud)	Drill out broken stud
	<b>PARTS</b>		
	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Part Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
	Up to 6.00	N 10737101	Bolt hex. hd. with shoulder

## Customer Letter Example (United States)

<MONTH YEAR>

<CUSTOMER NAME>

<CUSTOMER ADDRESS>

<CUSTOMER CITY STATE ZIPCODE>

**This notice applies to your vehicle:** <MODEL YEAR> <BRAND> <CARLINE>, <VIN>

**Subject: Emissions Recall 26M7 - Catalytic Converter & Engine Control Module (ECM) Software**

Dear Audi Owner,

In cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board, we are informing you of our decision to conduct an emissions recall on certain 2011-2012 model year Audi Q7 vehicles. Our records show that you are the owner of a vehicle affected by this action.

**What is the issue?** Under certain high load and/or highway driving conditions vehicle exhaust temperatures may increase catalyst aging, due to thermal stress, which could lead to elevated tailpipe emissions.

**What will we do?** Your authorized Audi dealer will install an improved catalytic converter and updated Engine Control Module (ECM) software. This work will take about three hours to complete and will be performed for you free of charge. Please keep in mind that your dealer may need additional time for the preparation of the repair, as well as to accommodate their daily workshop schedule.

**IMPORTANT! Please note that if the ECM in your vehicle has been “chipped,” “tuned,” or otherwise modified from original factory specifications with aftermarket components and/or software, work needed to repair, replace, or return the ECM to original factory specifications is NOT covered under this action.**

**What should you do?** In order to limit any possible inconvenience, please contact your authorized Audi dealer as soon as possible to schedule this service. For your convenience, you can also visit [www.audiusa.com](http://www.audiusa.com) and click on the “Find a Dealer” link to locate a dealer near you and schedule this service.

**Lease vehicles and address changes** If you are the lessor and registered owner of the vehicle identified in this action, please forward this letter immediately via first-class mail to the lessee within ten (10) days of receipt. If you have changed your address or sold the vehicle, please fill out the enclosed prepaid Owner Reply card and mail it to us so we can update our records.

**Important information for California Vehicle Owners – California Regulations** California regulations require that this campaign be completed prior to the time you renew your vehicle registration. Therefore, **please make sure that this campaign is completed prior to the renewal of your vehicle registration**, and that you furnish proof of completion to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in the form of a copy of the dealer's repair order, including a signed “Proof of Correction” certificate. You obtain this from your dealer after the campaign has been completed. Please retain the signed “Proof of Correction Certificate” with your vehicle records. **DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM to the DMV, unless requested.**

**Can we assist you further?** If your authorized Audi dealer fails or is unable to complete this work free of charge within a reasonable time, please contact Audi Customer Experience at 1-800-253-2834 or via our “Contact Us” page at [www.audiusa.com](http://www.audiusa.com).

**Checking your vehicle for open Recalls and Service Campaigns** To check your vehicle's eligibility for repair under this or any other recall/service campaign, please visit the **Recall/Service Campaign Lookup** tool at [www.audiusa.com](http://www.audiusa.com) and enter your Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

We apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause; however we are taking this action to help ensure your vehicle continues to meet and exceed your expectations.

Sincerely,

Audi Customer Protection

## Customer Letter Example (CANADA)

<MONTH YEAR>

<CUSTOMER NAME>

<CUSTOMER ADDRESS>

<CUSTOMER CITY STATE ZIPCODE>

**This notice applies to your vehicle:** <MODEL YEAR> <BRAND> <CARLINE>, <VIN>

**Subject: Emissions Recall 26M7 - Catalytic Converter & Engine Control Module (ECM) Software**

Dear Audi Owner,

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*. Audi has determined that a defect, which relates to a prescribed emission standard, exists in certain 2011-2012 model year Audi Q7 vehicles. Our records show that you are the owner of a vehicle affected by this action.

**What is the issue?** Under certain high load and/or highway driving conditions vehicle exhaust temperatures may increase catalyst aging, due to thermal stress, which could lead to elevated tailpipe emissions.

**What will we do?** Your authorized Audi dealer will install an improved catalytic converter and updated Engine Control Module (ECM) software. This work will take about three hours to complete and will be performed for you free of charge. Please keep in mind that your dealer may need additional time for the preparation of the repair, as well as to accommodate their daily workshop schedule.

**IMPORTANT! Please note that if the ECM in your vehicle has been “chipped,” “tuned,” or otherwise modified from original factory specifications with aftermarket components and/or software, work needed to repair, replace, or return the ECM to original factory specifications is NOT covered under this action.**

**What should you do?** In order to limit any possible inconvenience, please contact your authorized Audi dealer as soon as possible to schedule this service. On or about February 27, 2020 the necessary repair instructions and parts will be available to your authorized Audi dealer.

**Lease vehicles and address changes** If you are the lessor and registered owner of the vehicle identified in this action, please forward this letter immediately via first-class mail to the lessee within ten (10) days of receipt. If you have changed your address or sold the vehicle, please fill out the enclosed prepaid Owner Reply card and mail it to us so we can update our records.

**Can we assist you further?** If your authorized Audi dealer fails or is unable to complete this work free of charge within a reasonable time, please contact Audi Customer Relations Monday through Friday from 8AM to 8PM EST at 1-800-822-2834 or via our “Contact Audi Canada” page at [www.audi.ca](http://www.audi.ca).

We apologize for any inconvenience this matter may cause; however we are taking this action to help ensure your vehicle continues to meet and exceed your expectations.

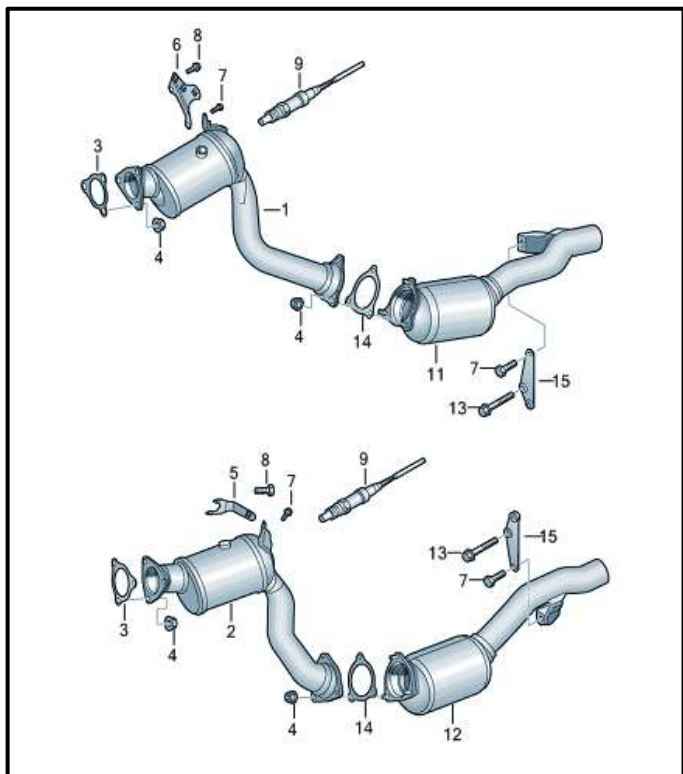
Sincerely,

Audi Customer Protection

## NOTE

- These repair instructions may differ from the labor operations and labor times listed in ELSA.
- Damages resulting from improper repair or failure to follow these work instructions are the dealer's responsibility and are not eligible for reimbursement under this action.
- This procedure must be read in its entirety prior to performing the repair.
- Due to variations in vehicle equipment and options, the steps/illustrations in this work procedure may not identically match all affected vehicles.
- Diagnosis and repair of pre-existing conditions in the vehicle are not covered under this action.
- When working during extreme temperatures, it is recommended that the vehicle be allowed to acclimate inside the shop to avoid temperature-related component damage/breakage.

## Repair Overview



- Vehicles with Criteria 01:
  - Replace left and right catalyysts.
- Vehicles with Criteria 01 AND 02:
  - Replace left and right catalysts.
  - Update engine control module software.

## Repair Instruction

### Section A - Check for Previous Repair

Applicable criteria ID(s)	Campaign/Action Status
01 ← 2	Open ← 1

**EXAMPLE**

- Enter the VIN in Elsa and proceed to the "Campaign/Action" screen.

#### TIP

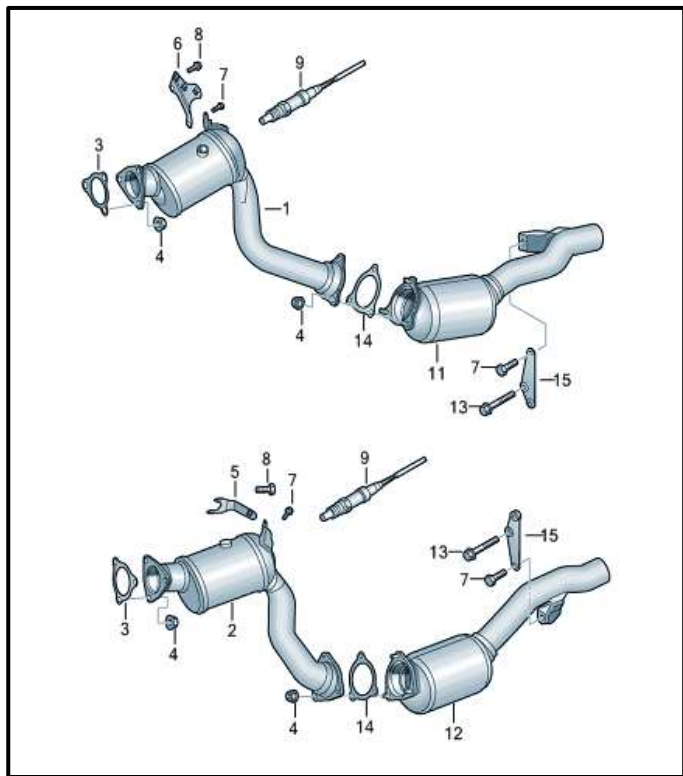
On the date of repair, print this screen and keep a copy with the repair order.

- Confirm the Campaign/Action is open <arrow 1>. If the status is closed, no further work is required.
- Note the Applicable Criteria ID <arrow 2> for use in determining the correct work to be done and corresponding parts associated.
- **All Safety Recalls MUST be completed before starting this Campaign.**

**Proceed to Section B**



## Section B – Repair Procedure



- Replace left and right catalyasts:
  - See ELSA Repair Manual: *Repair Manual > Engine > 6-Cylinder Direct Injection 3.0L 4V TFSI Supercharged Engine > 26 Exhaust System, Emission Controls > Muffler > Left & Right Catalytic Converter, Removing and Installing*

### NOTE

- Soak exhaust fasteners in penetrating oil prior to removal.
  - Note the original position and routing of all wiring and connectors.
  - Install the exhaust system free of tension per the repair manual.
- 
- Installation is the reverse order of removal.

**Vehicles with ONLY Criteria 01 – Proceed to Section D.**

**Vehicles with Criteria 02 Assigned - Proceed to Section C.**



#### NOTE

If the muffler flange studs break during removal, the studs can be drilled out and replaced with bolts instead of replacing the muffler.

- Cut the broken stud flush with flange.
- Center punch in the exact center of the broken stud.
- Drill through the stud to a diameter of 8.2 – 8.5 mm.
- Eliminate any edges caused by the drilling process.
- Use bolt N -107-371-01 in place of a broken stud.
- The installation direction of the bolt may vary.

## Section C – Engine Control Module Software Update

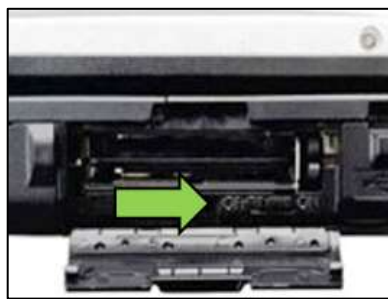
### NOTE

**Prior to launching the VAS Diagnostic Tester and starting an update, ensure the following conditions are met;**

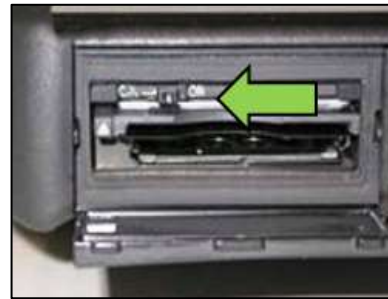
- ✓ **The ODIS software is completely up to date.**
  - Refer to the “Alerts” section on ServiceNet home page for the current ODIS version.
- ✓ **The battery charger is connected to the vehicle battery and remains connected for the duration of the software update.**
  - Battery voltage must remain above 12.5 volts for the duration of the software update. Failure to do so may cause the update to fail, which could result in damage to the control module. Control modules damaged by insufficient voltage will not be covered.
- ✓ **The screen saver and power saving settings are off.**
  - Failure to do so may result in the tester entering power save mode during the software update, which could result in damage to the control module.
- ✓ **The VAS Diagnostic Tester is plugged in using the supplied power adapters.**
  - Under no circumstances should the tester be used on battery power alone during the software update. Failure to do so may result in the tester powering off during the update, which could result in damage to the control module.
- ✓ **Flash process through “Audi Flashing” not Guided Fault Finding (GFF).**
  - DO NOT USE Guided Fault Finding (GFF) to perform this flash. Damage caused to control modules while using GFF will not be covered.
- ✓ **If using a Bluetooth or Wi-Fi transmitter head, it is connected to the tester with a USB cable.**
  - Performing a software update using a Bluetooth or Wi-Fi connection increases the risk of losing connection during the update, which could result in damage to the control module. It also greatly increases the time required to perform the update. Requests for additional time or parts will be denied if the GFF log shows the update was performed using Bluetooth or Wi-Fi.
- ✓ **The Bluetooth function of the scan tool is physically switched off <see pictures below>.**



**VAS 6150 & VAS 6150A**  
(Front panel behind handle)



**VAS 6150B**  
(Right side behind WIRELESS door)



**VAS 6150C**  
(Left side behind SC/EX door)

## **WARNING**

Radiator Fan(s) may cycle ON high speed during the Update Process! There is a serious risk that personal injury may result if contact is made with spinning fan blades. Keep hands and all objects away from Radiator Fan(s) during Update Process!

## **TIP**

To Update-Programming using SVM, review and follow instructions in Technical Bulletin 2011732: *Software Version Management (SVM) Operating Instructions*.

The SVM Process must be completed in its entirety so the database receives the update confirmation response. A warranty claim may not be reimbursed if there is no confirmation response to support the claim.

- Open the hood.
- Access the battery charging posts.
- Switch the ignition on.
- Apply the parking brake.
- Switch off all consumers (headlights, heated seats, climate control, etc.).
- Connect the VAS6150X/VAS6160X Diagnostic Tester to the vehicle.
- Start the ODIS program.
- Attach the GRX3000VAS Tester/Charger (or equivalent) to the vehicle battery charging posts.

## **NOTE**

### **Vehicles with Battery Monitoring Control Module -J367- and/or an EFB Battery:**

When connecting the charger to the battery, connect the positive cable to the positive terminal of the battery and connect the negative cable to the grounding lug on the chassis. DO NOT connect the ground cable directly to negative terminal of the battery.

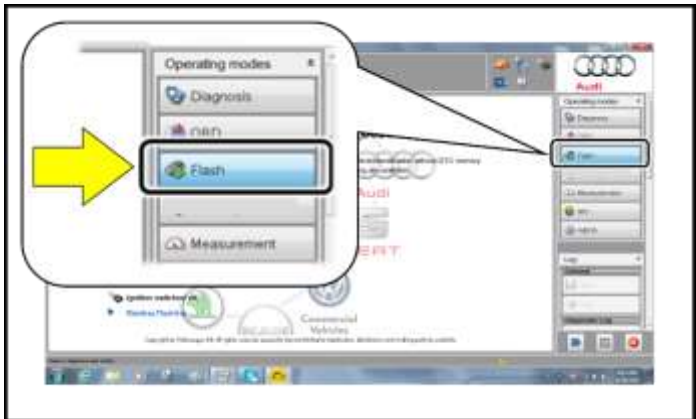
- Turn the hazards on.

## **CAUTION**

The procedure may cancel itself if the hazard warning lights are not switched on. The hazard warning lights prevent the system from switching to bus sleep mode during the update.



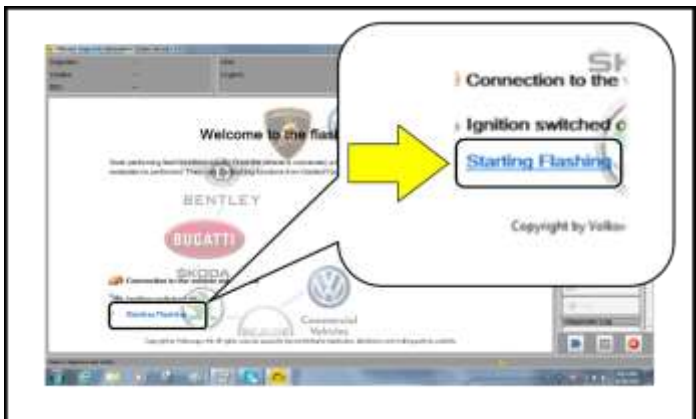
- Confirm that scan tool is communicating with the diagnostic head by USB cable.
  - If the Bluetooth or WiFi symbol is shown, then disconnect the diagnostic head from the vehicle and reconnect the USB cable to the diagnostic head and then reattach to the vehicle.



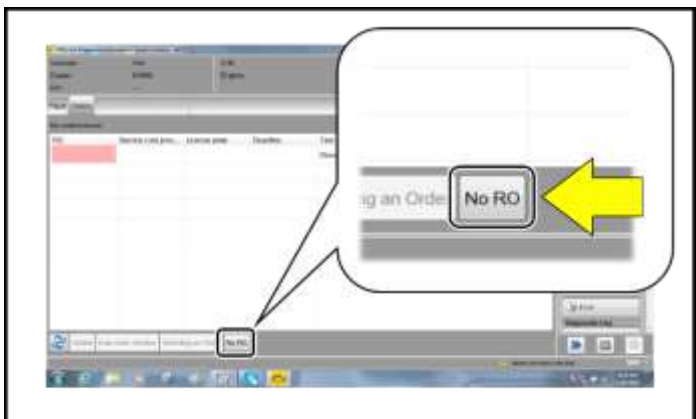
- From the home screen of the scan tool highlight “Flash” <1>.
- Follow the on-screen prompts.

**NOTE**

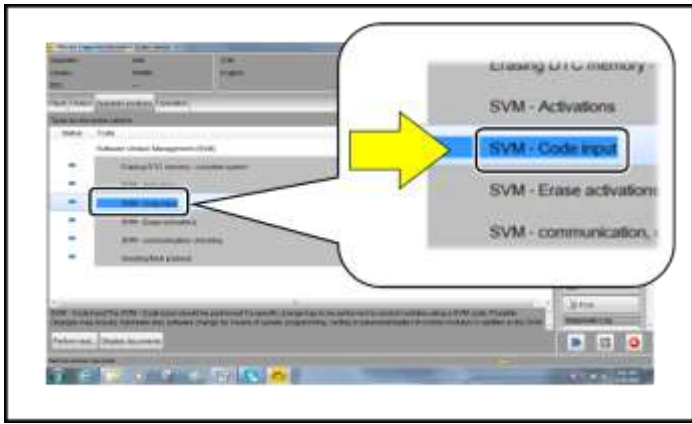
Operating mode “Flash” must be used. Performing this update using “Diagnosis” (Guided Fault Finding) could result in non-payment of the claim.



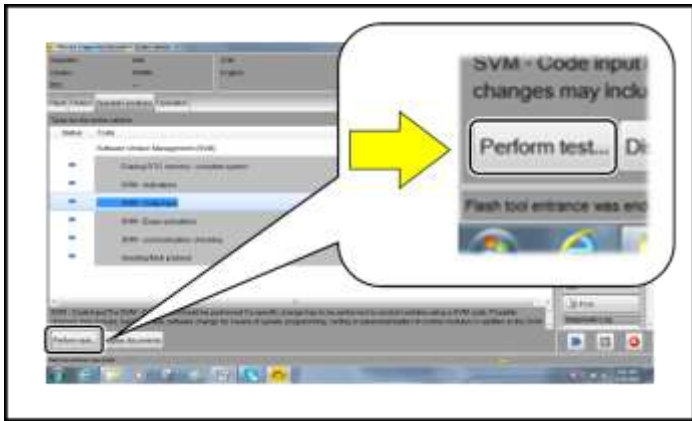
- Select “Starting Flashing” and follow the on-screen prompts.



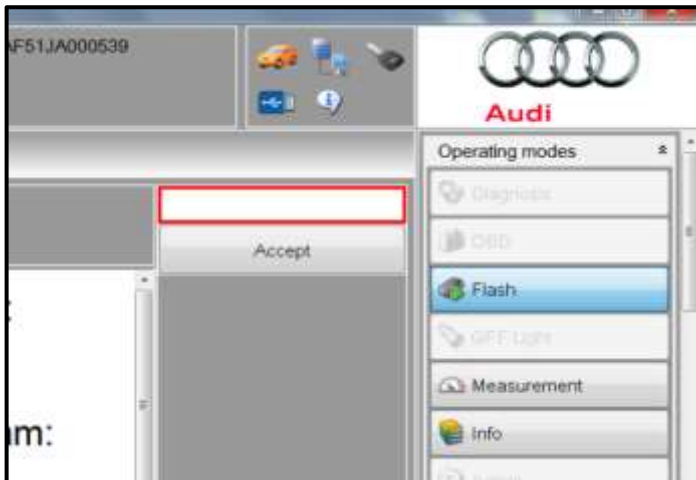
- Select “No RO”.



- Highlight “SVM – Code Input”.



- Select “Perform test”.



#### NOTE

**Using Bluetooth or Wi-Fi for this action is PROHIBITED!**

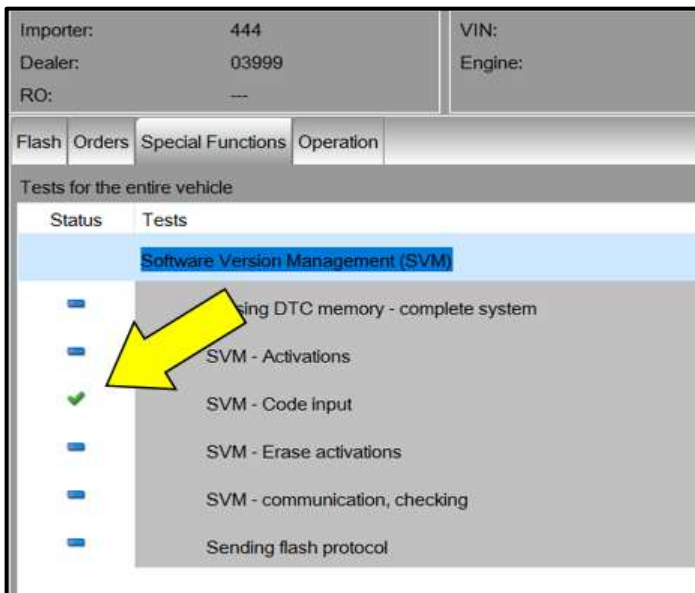
Damage caused to electronic components (e.g. ECM, TCM, etc.) during the SVM update process is not covered.

- Enter the corrective action code (SVM code) as listed below.

SVM code
<b>26M7A764</b>

- Select “Accept”.
- Follow the on-screen prompts.



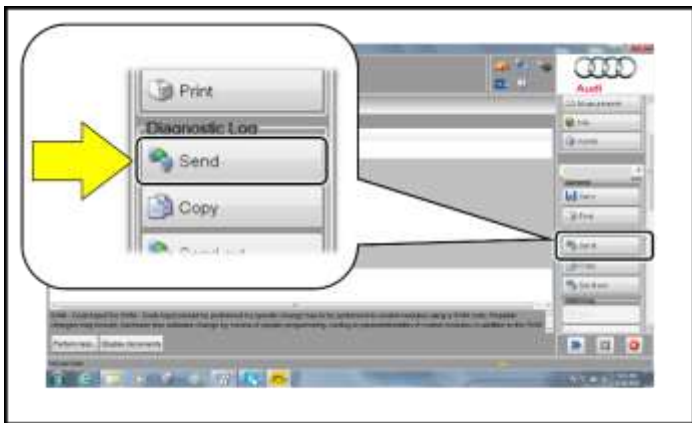


**NOTE**

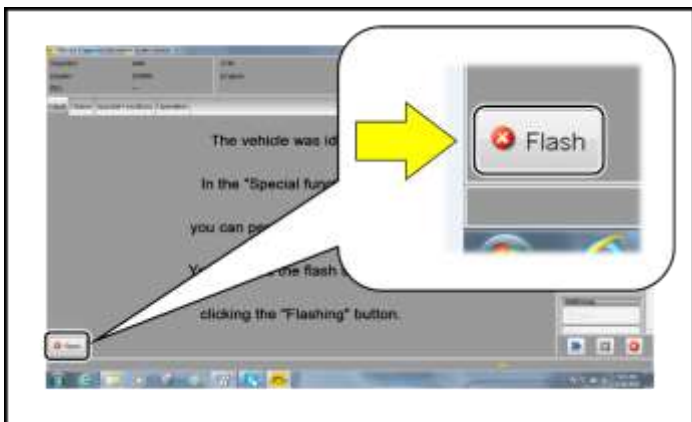
**STOP! STOP!**

This extra ignition cycle step must be followed, otherwise faults stored during the update may not be cleared upon exiting the Flash program.

- After receiving confirmation that the update completed successfully (green check mark) <arrow>, the ignition must be turned off for 60 seconds and then turned back on.



- After receiving confirmation that the flash completed successfully, select "Send" to send the diagnostic protocol online.
- Follow the on-screen prompts.



- Click "Flash" to exit the flash session.
- **Proceed to Section D.**

## Section D – Campaign Completion Stamp

I certify that this campaign  
has been performed in strict  
accordance with the applicable  
Audi repair procedure.

SAGA Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Technician: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Item#: AUD4927ENG

-OR-

Je certifie que cette  
campagne de rappel a été  
exécutée suivant les strictes  
directives de réparation  
d'Audi

Code de SAGA: \_\_\_\_\_

Technicien: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Item # AUD4927FRE

- Once the campaign has been completed, the technician should stamp the repair order.
- Stamps are available for ordering through the Compliance Label Ordering Portal.
- **Proceed to Section E.**

## Section E – Campaign Completion Label

### Install Campaign Completion Label

- Fill out and affix Campaign Completion Label, part number CAMP 010 000, next to the vehicle emission control information label.

#### TIP

Ensure Campaign Completion Label does not cover any existing label(s).

- **Proceed to Section F**



## Section F - Parts Return/Disposal

Properly store (retain), destroy or dispose of removed parts in accordance with all state/province and local requirements, unless otherwise indicated and/or requested through the Warranty Parts Portal (WPP) for U.S. and the Part Destruction and Core Disposition Report for Canada.

**Proceed to Section G (California only).**

## Section G – California Only Requirements

### **CALIFORNIA ONLY Requirements for Emissions Campaigns Having Customer Notification**

The California Air Resources Board and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) require emissions-related campaigns to be completed prior to vehicle registration renewal. **When campaign work is done you must provide the owner with a signed “Vehicle Emission Recall – Proof of Correction” certificate (RC EMIS\_CAL VW).** Certificates can be ordered at no cost online via the Compliance Label Ordering portal at [www.accessaudi.com](http://www.accessaudi.com).

#### **TIP**

Ensure owners are aware of the importance of retaining the completed certificate for their records. It should be mailed to the California DMV only upon request.